

# THE JOURNAL

Friday, January 27, 2006

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**Sports** Gauchos girls are making a habit of overtime victories [C1]

**Arts & Leisure** Actress gets nine lives in Berkeley Rep's new play [C10]

## Siri remembered for lasting impact on region



JOURNAL FILE PHOTO 1988

JEAN SIRI was first elected to the El Cerrito City Council in 1980, serving as mayor twice between then and 1991. She also served on the board for the regional park district and Stege Sanitary District.

By Alan Lopez

STAFF WRITER

Howard Abelson recalled sharing a car ride with the late Jean Siri from Sacramento to El Cerrito after the two had just been elected to the City Council in 1980 following a particularly bitter campaign.

It was the first time he had seen Siri since the campaign, and as they were getting into the car, he recalled her saying that they should put the bitter feelings behind them and start anew.

And they did, Abelson said, working for the betterment of El Cerrito despite their political disagreements.

"My feeling is she put aside all of her sort of political philosophy

### INSIDE

■ An appreciation of Jean Siri. Page A4

and concentrated on what had to be done," Abelson said.

Siri, a longtime East Bay Regional Park District board member, was found dead in her car from a heart attack last week at age 85. Contemporaries remember her, as an environmentalist and activist who got things done in El Cerrito and regionally, and wasn't afraid to speak her mind or adopt unpopular opinions.

"The aspect of her I'll miss most is her sense of humor, her directness, her willingness, almost

to a fault ... to tell it like it is," said longtime El Cerrito resident Al Miller. "Whenever Jean was at a meeting or any activity, you were just one or two words from being entertained, educated or having a good laugh."

El Cerrito voters first elected Siri to the City Council in 1980.

Former El Cerrito city manager Gary Pokorny recalled Siri as an early supporter of redevelopment as part of her long-term vision for the city. It wasn't always a popular decision.

"It's a fairly stark contrast to politicians today," said Pokorny, "who read polls and tell people what they think they want to hear instead of someone who looks ahead and tells people what they

need to hear."

Redevelopment in that era resulted in the Del Norte Place apartment complex, an early "smart growth" mixed-use development, and the recruitment of a Target store, both located on San Pablo Avenue near the Del Norte BART station.

Pokorny, an El Cerrito resident who served as city manager from 1989 to 2000, said Target helped cushion the blow of the Emporium Capwell department store closing at El Cerrito Plaza in the 1990s. The redevelopment efforts also laid the groundwork for the market forces bringing new development and life to the city today.

See SIRI, Page A9

## TV pilot aims to spotlight midriffs

Comedian Margaret Cho is behind push to develop a show featuring her belly dance instructor

By Alan Lopez

STAFF WRITER

The cultural phenomenon of reality television may be coming to El Cerrito, with help from comedian Margaret Cho.

For those unfamiliar with Cho, the 37-year-old San Francisco native starred in a short-lived but much talked-about sitcom "All American Girl" on ABC in 1994, based on her stand-up material, and was the first mainstream television show centered on an Asian-American woman.

Two years ago, Cho discovered belly dancing, which has become its own mid-00's cultural force for women looking for a new way to exercise.

More recently, she saw a belly dance show performed by Suhaila Salimpour, a Kensington resident with a dance studio on San Pablo Avenue in El Cerrito. She e-mailed Salimpour (who poses professionally by her first name only) and the two became friends. Somewhere along the way, an idea for a reality show was hatched. They spent this week at the studio filming material for a television pilot.

"I spend a lot of time working on reality shows," said Lorene Machado, a television and movie producer who works closely with Cho. Machado said her reality credits include "Bridezilla" and the "World's Wildest Police Videos."

"This clicked immediately," he said. "It has so much potential. You can't keep it in the box. Kicking at the box to get out." Eating bugs or surviving on a deserted island it's not. The idea to film a five-day intensive belly dance workshop, interview some of the 25 or so women participating, and witness their progress.

See DANCE, Page A9



GREGORY URQUIAGA/STAFF

COMEDIAN Margaret Cho sharpens her belly dancing skill with Suhaila Salimpour in her El Cerrito studio on Tuesday. Cho and Salimpour filmed material for a television pilot this week that they hope to turn into a reality TV show about Salimpour's life and studio.

## Berkeley unsure how to apply Marin ruling

By Alan Lopez

STAFF WRITER

The city of Berkeley wants a judge to clarify a recent ruling ordering it to consider the environmental impacts of the recent reconfiguration of Marin Avenue.

The city planned to file a motion Thursday to set a date to ask questions about the ruling, said Zach Cowan, Berkeley's assistant to the city attorney.

After Berkeley resident Ray Chamberlin sued to stop the Marin Avenue reconfiguration, Alameda County Superior Court Judge Bonnie Sabraw found that there was a fair argument the project might have a significant effect on the environment.

Last October, after several years

of planning, Berkeley and Albany reduced the number of traffic lanes on Marin Avenue from four to three, with a left-turn lane and added bicycle lanes. The reconfiguration runs about 16 blocks in Albany and four in Berkeley.

Berkeley and Albany had filed negative declarations for the project, meaning the cities did not anticipate any significant environmental impacts. Sabraw ruled that in approving the negative declaration, Berkeley failed to comply with California environmental law.

"It's saying that Berkeley must file an (environmental impact report)," Chamberlin said. "Not just a negative declaration."

See MARIN, Page A9

## Concert benefits ailing child

By Chris Treadway

STAFF WRITER

Hiroaki and Yuko Hayashi want to share happy times with their youngest son, and they want others to understand why those times are so important.

Ten-year-old Kiyonori Hayashi, known to friends and family as Kiyo, has severe myoclonic epilepsy, a rare form of the nervous disorder that manifests itself early in life and results in lengthy seizures that can be triggered by even mild stimulation of certain types.

Seizures can be triggered if a child takes a bath, has a fever or looks at stripe or polka dot patterns. The condition is also photosensitive, meaning looking at sunshine or being in a brightly lit

### IF YOU GO

■ **WHAT:** A pokkapoka (warm heart) concert to benefit severe myoclonic epilepsy research

■ **WHEN:** From 1 to 3:30 p.m. Saturday

■ **WHERE:** Ocean View Elementary School multipurpose room, 1000 Jackson St., Albany

■ **COST:** Free, donations for SME research accepted

room poses a risk. Attacks can only be controlled by an injection of seizure medications that become less effective over time.

See HAYASHI, Page A9

## Teachers union approves pay raise, change in benefits

By Shirley Dang

STAFF WRITER

West Contra Costa school district teachers have approved a tentative three-year agreement that offers a mid-year pay raise but changes who is eligible for extended benefits.

Members of the United Teachers of Richmond, a union that represents 1,857 teachers, finished casting their ballots Wednesday night. Jeff Cloutier, union execu-

tive director, said that 1,006 voted for the contract; 52 were opposed.

The approval was one of the first steps in ending nearly a year of negotiations.

"We're very excited and hopeful," said school board President Charles Ramsey. "I see what's going on in other districts, and I'm glad the parties could arrive at a fair and equitable agreement."

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## NEWS BRIEFS

## Channel 33 shows EC council meeting

The Albany public access channel 33 is showing the Jan. 9 El Cerrito City Council meeting on Mondays and Fridays at 6:30 p.m. until the end of the month.

At the meeting, the council heard four appeals of a planning commission decision approving a condominium project on the southeast corner of El Cerrito Plaza. The appellants include the Albany city government and school district and the North Albany Neighborhood Association.

The El Cerrito council will consider the project again on Monday.

## Arts committee seeks projects input

The Albany Arts Committee is seeking input for public art projects under consideration at three city parks. Public art locations at Memorial Park will be discussed Monday, Feb. 13; a design of art elements for the Ocean View Park entry will be discussed on Monday, March 13; and a tile project at Terrace Park will be discussed Monday, April 10.

All meetings will be held at 7 p.m. at the Albany community center, 1249 Marin Ave. To be included on a notification list for public meetings, e-mail [albanyartscommittee@albanyca.org](mailto:albanyartscommittee@albanyca.org). Arts Committee agendas and information can also be viewed at [www.albanyca.org](http://www.albanyca.org). For more information, call 510-524-9283.

## Directory of youth programs available

A directory with information about programs and classes for Albany youth at the Albany YMCA, the city's recreation department, University Village and the Albany Library is available. The directory can be picked up at those locations as well as Albany Chamber of Commerce and the Albany school district office. It can also be found online at [www.aclibrary.org/branches/alb/albanycommunity.asp](http://www.aclibrary.org/branches/alb/albanycommunity.asp).

The directory shows programs and classes available through June for preschool, elementary, middle and high school-aged children, as well as for families.

## Livable Berkeley hires Albany woman

Livable Berkeley, a local political group that says it favors "smart growth," has hired economist/community organizer Miriam Walden as its professional coordinator.

Walden, who also serves on the Albany school board, previously worked for Urban Habitat and Just Economics. Livable Berkeley is an outgrowth of the successful No on P campaign in 1963, which rejected a ballot measure to cap building heights on Berkeley's major streets.

Two regular members and one board member of the group are on the Downtown Area Plan Advisory Committee.

— Martin Snapp

## Comment sought on diesel generator

Albany residents have until Sunday to comment about a proposal by the USDA Agricultural Research Center to operate an emergency diesel generator at 800 Buchanan St.

The air district says the increase in health risks resulting from toxic air contaminant emissions is within acceptable levels, and that the project complies with all air pollution control requirements, according to a public notice. The generator is equipped with the best available control technology for minimizing pollutants and harmful air toxins.

Albany school district Superintendent Willie Wong said he understood that the amount of particulates and other toxic substances was very small but has requested that the USDA notify the principals at nearby MacGregor Continuation High School and Ocean View Elementary School when the generator is used.

Residents can comment or get more information on the proposal by e-mailing [avalla@baaqmd.gov](mailto:avalla@baaqmd.gov) or calling 415-749-5076. They can also send mail to the USDA Agricultural Research Center public notice response, 939 Ellis St., San Francisco, 94109, Attn: Arthur Valla.

More information can also be found online at [www.baaqmd.gov/pmt/public\\_notices/2005/index.htm](http://www.baaqmd.gov/pmt/public_notices/2005/index.htm).

— Alan Lopez

## Council to discuss tax measure plans

The Albany City Council will discuss potential June tax measures Feb. 6 that would pay for infrastructure needs.

City staff is recommending that the council place two tax measures on the June ballot: one that would pay for storm drain and street repair and a measure that would fund library services, according to a report written by City Administrator Beth Pollard and assistant to the city administrator Judy Lieberman.

Pollard and Lieberman also recommend putting off a number of city needs for a potential tax measure in November or later. Those needs include the restoration of the Veterans Memorial Hall and the purchase of land from Caltrans to be turned into park; plus city-wide annual maintenance and youth programs.

The meeting is intended to gather public input. It will be held at 8 p.m. at the City Hall Council Chamber, 1000 San Pablo Ave. For more information, call 510-528-5710.

— Alan Lopez

## AARP offers help for taxpayers

The AARP is offering Tax-Aide, a free service that can answer many of the tax issues faced by middle- and low-income taxpayers, with special attention to those ages 60 and older. The service will be available Feb. 1 to April 15 at various locations, including the El Cerrito Open House senior center at 6500 Stockton Ave. (Wednesdays and Thursdays, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.); the Albany Senior Center at 846 Masonic Ave. (Thursdays, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.); the West Berkeley Public Library at 1125 University Ave. (Tuesdays and Thursdays, 12:15 p.m. to 4 p.m.); the North Berkeley Senior Center at 1901 Hearst Ave. (Tuesdays, noon to 4 p.m.); and the South Berkeley Library at 1901 Russell St. (Saturdays from noon to 4:30 p.m.).

For more information, call 1-888-227-7669 or visit [www.aarp.org/taxaide](http://www.aarp.org/taxaide) for year-round assistance.

— Craig Lazzaretto

## Suspected fraud ring targeting teachers

Thieves pose as parents or volunteers when they strike East Bay schools

By Shirley Dang  
STAFF WRITER

The brazen burglary of a Danville classroom last week by a woman posing as a school volunteer appears to be part of an organized fraud ring targeting teachers across the East Bay, police and teachers say.

Thieves have struck at least 13 campuses in the West Contra Costa school district. When three suspects were arrested this week, Pleasant Hill police found a credit card belonging to a San Leandro teacher.

Police all over the Bay Area are investigating ties between these crimes and others, said Danville Police Chief Chris Wenzel. "There are a lot of similarities," Wenzel said. "Odds are they are connected in some way."

On Jan. 17, police arrested

"Pick on the Enron guys or something, will ya? It's just brutal."

Suzanne Lock, first-grade teacher at Stewart Elementary School in Pinole, who lost \$1,200

three Richmond women in connection with a same-day burglary at Valley View Elementary School in Richmond, said Pleasant Hill police Lt. Peter Enea.

Andraria Yancy, 21, is suspected of burglary, possession of stolen property, check fraud, giving a false name to police and identity theft, Enea said. Officers found her carrying a credit card allegedly taken in November from a San Leandro teacher.

Christina Murray, 20, is suspected of burglary and check

fraud, Enea said. Marla Daniels is suspected of giving false information to police, Enea said. The three were arrested after one tried to cash an \$865 check at Washington Mutual Bank on Contra Costa Boulevard.

In many of the burglaries, thieves boldly walked onto campus well-heeled and well-organized, claiming to be parents, said Vince Kilmartin, associate superintendent of operations for West Contra Costa. Then they sneaked into empty classrooms during recess and stole wallets, checkbooks and money from purses.

"They were very clever," Kilmartin said.

In the Danville burglary Jan. 13, a young woman came to Montair Elementary and said she was logging volunteer hours to earn her teaching credential. She took off with a teacher's credit cards, later racking up thousands of dollars in charges. Madison Crocker lost her en-

tire checking account savings after she left her class at Washington Elementary in Richmond for eight minutes in September. When she returned, her wallet had disappeared.

Credit card charges appeared that night. In the few days, thieves wrote \$15,000 in checks in her name, draining her bank account.

Suzanne Lock, a first-grade teacher at Stewart Elementary in Pinole who lost \$1,200, she has heard from 18 teachers with similar stories. "We don't understand someone would steal teachers."

"Pick on the Enron guys or something, will ya? It's just brutal."

Shirley Dang covers education. Reach her at 510-262-2798 or [sdang@cctimes.com](mailto:sdang@cctimes.com). Staff writer Kellie Appleton contributed to this story.

## EL CERRITO POLICE REPORTS

## Saturday, Jan. 14

■ **VALLEJO MEN ARRESTED** — At 8:19 p.m., police arrested two Vallejo men at San Mateo Street and Central Avenue on suspicion of possessing a stolen vehicle.

## Monday, Jan. 16

■ **AUTO BURGLARY** — Tools, clothing and more were taken from a 1998 Ford Ranger pickup truck on the 600 block of Everett Street sometime between 9 p.m. on Jan. 16 and 10 a.m. the next day.

## Tuesday, Jan. 17

■ **GARAGE BURGLARIZED** — A garage on the 700 block of Alameda Street was entered and burglarized after the garage door opener

was taken from a vehicle at the El Cerrito Plaza BART station.

■ **CAMRY STOLEN** — A 1987 Toyota Camry stolen in El Cerrito on Jan. 14 was recovered on the 600 block of Elm Street at 9 a.m.

## Wednesday, Jan. 18

■ **INTEGRA STOLEN** — A 1990 Acura Integra was taken from the 700 block of Pomona Avenue sometime between 4 p.m. on Jan. 18 and 9:45 a.m. the next day.

■ **TACOMA RANSACKED** — A 2003 Toyota Tacoma on the 7200 block of Potrero Avenue was ransacked sometime between 5 p.m. on Jan. 18 and 10 a.m. the next day.

■ **STOLEN COINS** — Coins were taken from a 1995 Ford Ranger pickup truck on the 7100 block of Potrero Avenue sometime between 7 p.m. on

Jan. 18 and 9 a.m. on Jan. 19. Coins were also taken from a 1997 Toyota Tacoma on the 7300 block of Gladys Avenue sometime between 2:30 p.m. on Jan. 18 and 6:30 a.m. the next day.

■ **TACOMA RANSACKED** — A Toyota Tacoma on the 2600 block of Monte Vista Avenue was ransacked sometime between midnight on Jan. 18 and 1 p.m. on Jan. 20.

## Thursday, Jan. 19

■ **SHED BURGLARIZED** — A television, computer and power tools were taken from a storage shed on the 7300 block of Terrace Drive sometime between 5 p.m. on Jan. 19 and 8:30 a.m. the next day.

■ **FORD RANSACKED** — A Ford Ranger on the 5900 block of Jordan Avenue was ransacked sometime between 5 p.m. on Jan. 19 and 7 a.m. the next day.

## ALBANY POLICE REPORTS

## Monday, Jan. 16

■ **LITTER** — Someone left empty alcohol containers on the deck of the pool on the 1300 block of Portland Avenue.

## Tuesday, Jan. 17

■ **SLEEPER ARRESTED** — Officers arrested a 49-year-old transient man on suspicion of possessing stolen property when he was found sleeping in a silver 2005 Mazda in the driveway of a residence on the 1000 block of Curtis Street.

■ **FOOD THIEF** — An employee of the Safeway store on the 1500 block of Solano Avenue reported that a man took lots of frozen food from the store. He was last seen departing in a white Honda Civic. Officers have the license plate number, and are investigating.

■ **OUTSTANDING WARRANTS** — Officers stopped a silver 1992 Mitsubishi near Solano Avenue and Adams Street for a vehicle code violation. They arrested the driver, a 24-year-old Richmond man, for outstanding warrants for reckless driving.

■ **BURGLAR** — Security at the Target store on the 1000 block of Eastshore reported having a 37-year-old Oakland man in custody on suspicion of burglary. Officers picked up the man and processed the arrest.

■ **PETTY THEFT** — During the night someone stole items out of an unlocked silver Volvo SW parked in a driveway of a residence on the 1000

block of Curtis Street.

## Wednesday, Jan. 18

■ **JEWELRY THIEVES** — The owner of an antique store on the 1100 block of Solano Avenue reported that about 3 p.m. a man and woman came into the shop looking at items. While the woman was talking with the owner, the man stole jewelry out of a showcase. The man was described as white, about 5 feet 3 inches tall, heavyset, wearing a baseball cap and black leather jacket. Police are investigating.

## Thursday, Jan. 19

■ **MULTIPLE ARRESTS** — Officers stopped a blue 1986 Chevrolet near San Pablo Avenue and Lincoln Street for a vehicle code violation. They arrested three Richmond men, ages 19, 27 and 38, and a 21-year-old Richmond woman on suspicion of possessing stolen property and conspiracy. They also arrested a 30-year-old Pinole man for an outstanding warrant for drug possession. Richmond police were called to assist with the arrests.

■ **SUPPLIES STOLEN** — During the night someone cut the lock off a storage container at Ocean View Elementary School on the 1000 block of Jackson Street and stole emergency preparedness supplies from inside. There were no witnesses.

■ **OUTSTANDING WARRANTS** — Officers responded to the north side of a restaurant on the 900 block of

San Pablo Avenue when someone reported seeing a person asleep in the bushes. Officers arrested the sleeper, a 43-year-old Richmond man, for several outstanding warrants from San Francisco and Berkeley.

## Friday, Jan. 20

■ **AUTO BREAK-IN** — A Berkeley man reported that his gray 1996 Volvo 850 had been broken into while it was parked for two hours in the parking lot behind Albany Theater. The window was smashed and items stolen. There were no witnesses.

■ **ASSAULT** — A woman on the 1100 block of Key Route Boulevard called several times during the day to report a man sitting in a car outside her home and harassing her. Officers were called again around 9:30 p.m. when the man became physically aggressive toward her. Officers arrested the 34-year-old Albany man on suspicion of assault.

## Saturday, Jan. 21

■ **DUI** — A few minutes after midnight officers arrested a 33-year-old Antioch woman driving a silver Dodge on the 900 block of San Pablo Avenue on suspicion of DUI.

■ **AUTO BREAK-IN** — Someone broke into a red Honda Civic in the parking lot of the Albany Bowl on the 500 block of San Pablo Avenue.

## Friday, Jan. 20

■ **ACURA BURGLARIZED** — A stereo and clothing were taken from an Acura on the 900 block of Drive sometime between 9:30 p.m. on Jan. 20 and 2 p.m. the next day.

■ **IPOD STOLEN** — A 13-year-old girl reported that her iPod was stolen at 3:30 p.m. Two men wearing masks committed the robbery and put the girl into a fence at Lexington. Waldo avanos, police said.

■ **SHOPLIFTING ARREST** — A 21-year-old Richmond man on suspicion of stealing a bottle of liquor from a Safeway at 2:28 p.m. The man followed a vehicle pursuit. He was also in possession of roach and drug paraphernalia, said.

There were no witnesses.

■ **AUTO BREAK-IN** — During the night someone broke into a red Honda Civic on the 1000 block of bot Avenue and stole the in-dio.

## Sunday, Jan. 22

■ **DOUBLE BREAK-IN** — A colored 1997 Toyota Camry and white 1994 Honda Accord that parked on the 400 block of C Avenue were broken into during the night.

■ **VAN BREAK-IN** — An Albany woman reported that her green Mazda van was broken into when it was parked at the Teen Center, 900 block of Buchanan Street. The window was smashed and her stolen.

## Monday, Jan. 23

■ **OUTSTANDING WARRANT** — About 4 a.m. officers arrested a 30-year-old Richmond woman on BART path on the 700 block of sonia Avenue for outstanding Alameda County warrants for driving with a suspended license.

■ **AUTO BREAK-IN** — Someone broke into a white 1997 Toyota pickup parked on the 1100 block of Cornell Avenue during the night. There were no witnesses.

— Kristin

## THE JOURNAL

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Craig Lazzaretto, Hills editor

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## EDITORIAL

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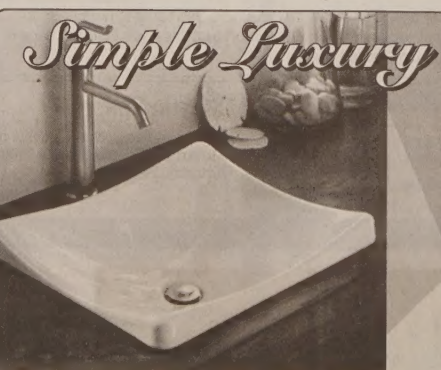
## Albany Fire department sells disaster kits

Some 50 disaster kits are available for \$45 each at the Albany fire department.

Residents should call Fire Marshall Brian Crudo at 510-528-5775 for more information. The fire department will also be selling

the kits at an event commemorating the San Francisco earthquake centennial. The event will be held from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday, April 22 at the fire department, 1000 San Pablo Ave.

— Alan Lopez



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# Neighbors

## Take time to appreciate the perfection of Mozart

WAS 18 YEARS old when my cousin Dorothy turned me on to my favorite addiction. I had just graduated from high school and I was raving to her about my new faves, Bach and Beethoven. "If you think they're good, try this," she said. And, with the conspiratorial air of a drug dealer, she handed me a recording of Mozart's piano and wind quintet. I was instantly hooked. These other guys were good; but after you've heard Mozart, everything else is a letdown.

I'm not the only one who feels this way. Franz Josef Haydn, the most eminent composer of his day, heard the teenage Mozart improvise at the keyboard and told the boy's father, "Your son is the greatest composer known to me, either in person or by name."

George Bernard Shaw said of Mozart's work: "It's the only music written by a human being that would not seem out of place at the mouth of God."

And when the late conductor Hans Richter was asked by one of his students, "Who was the greatest composer who ever lived?" he said, "Well, there's Bach, of course, and Beethoven and Brahms."

"Why isn't Mozart on the list?" asked the student.

"Oh!" said Richter. "I thought you meant art from Mozart!" I'd go even further. I think he was the greatest genius who ever lived — greater than even Shakespeare, Leonardo, Michelangelo, Newton or Einstein.

He was the child prodigy to all child prodigies. At the age of 2 he was taken to a farm, where he heard a pig squeal.

"G-sharp!" he exclaimed. "Somebody ran to the piano. Are you enough, G-sharp?"

He composed his first symphony at 8 and his first opera at 11. Even though he only lived to 35, he composed more than 600 pieces of music, more than anyone but Bach.

And get this: Everything he wrote is absolutely perfect.

"Just try to add or subtract a note," says flutist Maria Immundo of Berkeley. "You can't do it. Everything is effortless, logical, perfection itself."

Think about it: Have you ever heard anything perfectly? I sure haven't. I've been writing these letters for more than 20 years, and there isn't a single one that wouldn't have been better if I'd



MARTIN SNAPP  
Snapp Shots

had more time to work on it.

But Mozart wrote the "Linz" Symphony (which more than one music critic has likened to opening a bottle of champagne) in just four days. He wrote the overture to "Don Giovanni" overnight, his wife Constanze keeping him awake by feeding him hot chocolate and telling him amusing stories.

And his perfection isn't the sterile, academic kind. Music can touch deep places in the human heart in a way that no other art form can, and Mozart's touches the deepest places of all.

Nothing in the world is as sad as his Requiem. Nothing is as funny as Susanna and Cherubino's duet in "The Marriage of Figaro." Nothing is as sensual as Symphony No. 40.

And nothing is as awesome — literally — as his final symphony, No. 41, the "Jupiter." There are times during the last movement when it feels as though I might be turned to stone by beholding the face of God.

As violinist Isaac Stern said, "Mozart can say more in 16 or 18 measures than most people can say in a whole novel."

Not only that, everything he wrote is stunningly, gorgeously beautiful. You don't need a degree in musicology to "get it." Just sit back and let those exquisite melodies take you away.

Kurt Vonnegut said, "I don't need any other proof for the existence of God besides music," adding, "the only purpose of art is to make us feel better about life."

Listening to Mozart, I know what he meant.

But don't take my word for it. Today would have been Mozart's 250th birthday. And there's no better gift you could give yourself than to listen to some of his music. Enjoy!

Reach Martin Snapp at 510-262-2768 or e-mail msnapp@ccetimes.com.

### FACES & PLACES

## ECHS oral history film committee seeks help

A committee organizing an oral history film for El Cerrito High School is looking for volunteers. The committee is looking for people who want to be interviewed or trained to interview people; as well as residents who have experience producing such films.

The people in the film will be teachers, graduates, administrators and others that had a part in the school's history, said organizer Joann Steck-Bayat.

The oral history committee will meet at 7 p.m. on Feb. 21, March 14, April 11, May 9 and June 13 in room 72 at the high school, located at 540 Ashbury Ave.

For information, call Mayor Janet Abelson at 510-525-7709.



SHERRY LAVARS/TIMES

YASMINE ALBAWAMI, 11, an aspiring thespian, works on her dance moves Jan. 17, the first day of the winter session's Broadway Babies classes at Contra Costa Civic Theatre in El Cerrito. The class teaches how to put on a stage production.

Students learning English as a second language.

Her work, which will be changed every four to six weeks at the restaurant, is available for sale.

— Alan Lopez

### CERRITO CREEK PLANTINGS

Friends of Five Creeks volunteers will be planting natives and removing invasive plants to restore habitat along the new Cerrito Creek walkway from 10 a.m. to noon on Saturday, Feb. 4. Participants should wear shoes with good traction and clothes that can get dirty. Meet at Creekside Park, the south end of Santa Clara St., in El Cerrito. For more information, visit [www.fivecreeks.org](http://www.fivecreeks.org), e-mail [fivecreeks@aol.com](mailto:fivecreeks@aol.com) or call 510-848-9358.

— Craig Lazzarotti

### GOLF TOURNEY SIGN-UPS

OPEN: The 2006 Cougar Classic Golf Tournament benefiting the Albany High School golf team will be held at Tilden Park Golf Course on Feb. 10 with a noon shotgun start, followed by a bar-

— Alan Lopez

## Numerous volunteer opportunities available

**Q.** I HAVE RECENTLY retired and now find myself with time on my hands. Volunteer work sounds like a good idea. Do you have information about such possibilities? Who could use an enthusiastic volunteer?

**A.** I HAVE DONE some research and found that many services are very interested in volunteers. One of the largest groups is hospitals. It certainly appears that you could pick the one most convenient to you, and it would welcome you eagerly. Of course, the available positions would likely involve giving information to visitors, such as how to find particular areas, facilities or patients. Such services are extremely important to those unfamiliar with the institution.

At a much smaller level are local senior centers. The ones with which I am familiar are always searching for funds, and therefore welcome volunteers. As a senior, it is very comfortable to be working with others of similar ages, and often-similar interests, and there usually are many types of activities for volunteers.

Older adults who go to such centers often lose various abilities, both mental and physical, and specific needs for help arise. Volunteers may assist Alzheimer's groups or be on hand to help luncheon attendees with seating and arising.

Specific centers can tell you of their particular needs.

Schools are also eager to utilize volunteer help. If you were a teacher professionally, you likely will be particularly useful for some specific need. If you want to help young children,



CONNIE LYNCH  
Don't Lose Your Mind

you can be a coach, tutor, or just generally available for assistance during a particular assigned period of time and subject matter. Monitors are often needed to watch over groups of children who are engaged in a particular activity but in need of an observer in case there might be some type of mishap requiring adult assistance.

There are many other activities in schools, as well. You could be asked to work on a one-to-one basis to help an individual child to master a particular skill such as reading. Your best option is to ask the school that you choose about its special needs, and then to decide which activity you prefer.

Perhaps the type of business or career from which you retired has committees or offshoot groups that could use expert opinions or other helpful information. It is comfortable to continue your chosen life direction. Then again, if your career did not consist of your favorite activities, it might be more desirable to choose something new that would please you.

There are so many possibilities. The list is endless. Be sure

As a senior, it is very comfortable to be working with others of similar ages, and often-similar interests, and there usually are many types of activities for volunteers.

to check on the Internet for suggestions. For example: family organizing, homelessness, adolescent counseling, and AIDS volunteers — to name a few. Libraries are also in need of volunteers to put books back

on shelves, and many other types of jobs that do not require an "up-close and personal" dealing with others. Much depends upon your particular personality when you are choosing the type of volunteer work that you prefer.

Whatever your final decision may be, it is wonderful that you have decided to share your abilities with others.

E-mail inquiries for Kensington resident Connie Lynch to [conniemw@aol.com](mailto:conniemw@aol.com). Lynch, Ph.D., is the founder of Mind Works, a mental fitness program designed for older adults, and is the author of "Don't Lose Your Mind, Four Components of Superior Mental Fitness." For information on books and classes, call 510-466-5833.

### ET OF THE WEEK

**BERKELEY** — The following animals may be available for adoption at the Berkeley-East Bay Humane Society.

**Cats:** 7-month-old female same point Siamese domestic medium hair (DMH) mix; 2-year-old male black & white tuxedo domestic long hair (DLH); 3-year-old male gray domestic short hair (SH); 4-year-old female tortoiseshell DLH; 8-month-old male black DSH; 10-year-old female tabby with white DLH; 1-year-old female gray tabby DSH; 1-year-old male white & black SH; 7-year-old male white with tabby DSH; more cats and dogs of various ages, sizes and colors.

**Dogs:** 4-year-old male black & white Jack Russell terrier mix; 3-year-old female yellow Labrador/gundog mix; 6-month-old female tan Rhodesian Ridgeback mix; 1-year-old white & black pointer mix; 5-year-old liver white German shorthair pointer; 1-year-old female black & tan ruse mountain dog mix; 7-month-old male tri-color hound mix; 8-month-old male red merle Weimaraner; 2-year-old male yellow Labrador retriever; 8-month-old golden retriever.

Adoption fee: dogs \$125; cats \$60; rabbits \$40 — including spaying, neutering and age-appropriate shots. There is an overnight hold period. The Berkeley-East Bay Humane Society is located at 2700 Ninth



**SNOOPY** is a 2-year-old male bull terrier/hound mix, and may be available for adoption at the Berkeley-East Bay Humane Society. He is recommended for a household with children ages 15 or older. For more information about Snoopy or other animals available for adoption, call or visit the Berkeley-East Bay Humane Society.

St., Berkeley. Its hours are 12 p.m. to 7 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday and 12 p.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday. Information: [www.berkeleyhumane.org](http://www.berkeleyhumane.org) or call 510-845-7735.



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HILLS EDITOR • CRAIG LAZZERETTI

ALBANY • EL CERRITO • KENSINGTON

# THE JOURNAL

"... were it left to me to decide whether we should have a government without newspapers, or newspapers without a government, I should not hesitate a moment to prefer the latter."

— Thomas Jefferson

## COMMENTARY

### Jean Siri embodied a grass-roots spirit

By Chris Treadway

IT HAPPENED TO run into a longtime official of the East Bay Regional Park District last weekend, and the conversation turned to the death last week of Jean Siri.

The official said Siri had grown frail, but that she was still ... He paused, searching for the word. "Feisty?" I volunteered. The official confirmed that was the word he was looking for, and it may be the word that best describes Jean Siri.

Siri could look grandmotherly, and she had a good sense of humor.

But all you had to do was see her at work, and you knew there was much more going on. She could even throw in some strong language if she felt the occasion called for it, which I saw her do at El Cerrito City Council meetings back in the late 1980s.

Her strongest trait was her sense of right and wrong. If she thought she was right, there was no backing down, diplomacy be damned, and she could be quite outspoken about her views.

That served her well during the Save the Bay movement she helped form, and it served her later, both on the El Cerrito City Council and on the regional parks district board.

Have no doubt that Siri made her enemies. But even in that camp, most people I've spoken to respected her adherence to her convictions.

And if you knew her, there was no doubting her convictions were heartfelt.

The standard today is to zap

an e-mail to every news outlet, an opinion expressed instantly with the click of a key. Siri would send an individual letter, handwritten in ballpoint pen on old-style onion skin paper, to the newspaper every winter.

It would be hard to read the letters for typesetting, but they would be no less important — imploring the county to open a shelter during the coldest time of year and reminding everyone that donations of food or clothing were needed to help those less fortunate in Contra Costa County.

Though they would be written in a grandmotherly style, their message was clear. And she wouldn't write just one letter to one newspaper; she would send the handwritten messages to every outlet she thought could enlist help.

I believe that best describes Jean Siri and her grassroots nature.

Talking to her was no different. She was always personable, but always resolute in what she believed.

When I mentioned her outspokenness to the regional parks official, he acknowledged that trait, adding that it was "very refreshing" to see such candor from an elected official.

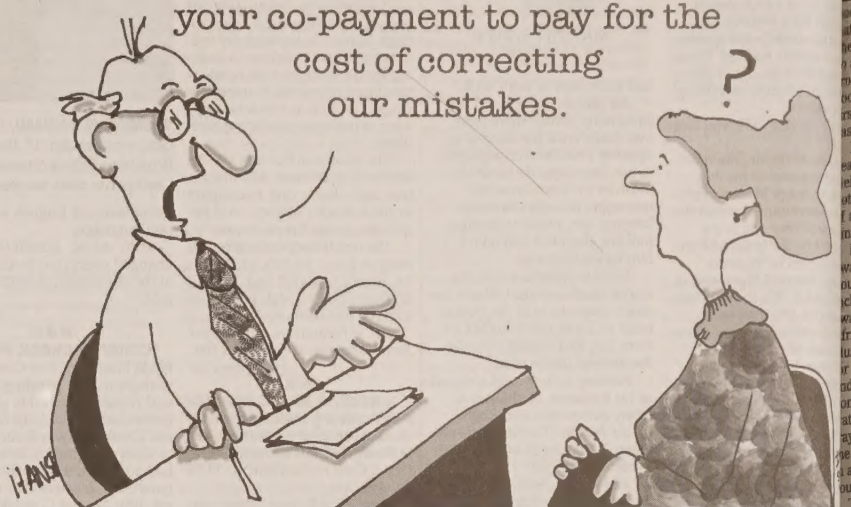
That was Jean Siri, and we can only hope we see her likes again.

Chris Treadway is a West County Times staff writer and former editor of the Berkeley Voice and The Journal of Albany, El Cerrito and Kensington.

JEFF HANSEN • HILLS NEWSPAPERS

## MEDICARE GLITCHES ARE COSTING ALL OF US MILLIONS

I'm sorry, we have to increase your co-payment to pay for the cost of correcting our mistakes.



## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Housing project proposed for plaza

The housing project proposed for the southeast corner of El Cerrito Plaza consists of 128 condominiums on approximately three acres.

This appears to conform to the maximum allowable density of 45 residential units per acre, according to the El Cerrito zoning code. However, the El Cerrito General Plan states that zoning densities in the El Cerrito zoning code are net densities (page 4-10; www.el-cerrito.org/planning/pdf/GPCHAPTER\_4\_2.pdf).

Net densities are calculated using the total site area less the area devoted to streets. As currently proposed, one quarter of the project parcel (approximately 0.75 acres) will be occupied by streets. The net density of the proposed project is, therefore, approximately 57 units per acre, which is more than 25 percent greater than the maximum, legally allowable, net density.

Please attend the meeting of the El Cerrito City Council to oppose its approval of this project. The meeting is at 7:30 p.m. Monday at 7007 Mooser Lane.

Please support the "Environmentally Superior Alternative" project (according to the Environmental Impact Report) consisting of 97 units. A project this size would comply with the 45-unit per acre maximum net density.

Preston Jordan  
Albany

### Secret wiretapping

The president had at his disposal a secret court for obtaining wiretap orders in cases affecting the national security.

If he didn't use it, it's because he didn't want anyone — not even the secret court — to know who he was bugging. Why? This abuse of power involving thousands of Americans was so egregious that members of his own administration felt compelled to speak out.

Those of us who grew up under Nixon can only be astounded at the complacency of our elected representatives in not acting quickly to protect us from this undermining of the very Constitution that makes us who we are as a nation.

Nixon was forced to resign as a result of his over-reaching.

When will George Bush be held to account for this illegal, unconstitutional and dangerous breach of the public trust? Our checks and balances were established against just such threats. Who will defend us against their dismantlement, which is occurring before our very eyes?

Pamela Gilbert-Snyder  
El Cerrito

### Alito is wrong choice

Alito is the wrong choice for the Supreme Court. Many are expressing the opinion that because the confirmation hearings were not exciting, his nomination is a sure thing.

I'd like to encourage all local readers to remember that Alito has a history of extreme viewpoints, of hiding his opinions during confirmation, and of relying on these extreme views to make his rulings.

In the past, Alito tried to hide his membership in Concerned Alumni of Princeton, which sought to restrict the admission of women and minorities to Princeton and has expressed opinions

that presidential power should go practically unchecked.

Alito has declared that he opposes any protections for workers, the environment or reproductive freedom. He promised the Senate he would not rule on cases where he had a financial interest but did anyway after he was confirmed to the Third Circuit Court of Appeals.

With such evidence of his past behavior, what could make us think that he will behave better when given a lifetime appointment to the supreme judicial power of the land? We know who Alito is, and we know he is not the right person to wield such power.

Please support your senator in opposing Alito's confirmation with any and all methods. Our senators have a difficult task ahead and cannot believe that opposing Alito is hopeless or unimportant to us back home.

Pamela Reynolds  
El Cerrito

### It is county's concern!

A lot of people died in New Orleans because so much of the Louisiana National Guard and their helicopters were in Iraq.

If there is a major earthquake in Contra Costa County tomorrow, I and many others may die because so much of the California National Guard and their equipment are in Iraq.

Why is this supposed to be none of the business of the government of this seismically unstable county? Of course, the county does not have the authority to bring them home, but it might help if they screamed a bit.

If enough local governments complain, they will eventually be heard.

Diane Ames  
El Cerrito

### The National Guard is our business

We expect our leaders to lead! The Contra Costa Board of Supervisors represents us, and we want them to help get the California National Guard home.

After watching what happened in New Orleans with their National Guard sitting over in Iraq, we now really know the importance of them being here where they are meant to be. An earthquake or a major storm that causes flooding, or another levy burst such as the one that buried 400,000 acres of California, all require the Guard to be here and available.

Bring them home now! The war in Iraq is illegal and fed by a steady stream of lies from the U.S. administration to keep

it going for oil. Meanwhile, Sweden making plans to be through with the war for oil in 2012.

We ask our county supervisors to visit this discussion and come up with even more reasons than these to vote "yes" to bring the Guard home now. Please write to your supervisors for wisdom.

Rev. Sandra Decker  
Kensington

### Judge Alito's actions

It would be a grave — and irreversible — mistake to confirm Judge Alito to the seat on the Supreme Court.

I don't know who or what guided the man's upbringing, but my mother's wisdom — "Actions speak louder than words" — guided mine.

Judge Alito's previous "actions" regarding Roe vs. Wade and the Concerned Alumni of Princeton (to name only two issues) are much "louder" than any recent "words" he may utter about his called open mind.

I hope the Senate will heed my mother's wisdom, realize that just saying something doesn't make it so, and vote "no" on Alito.

Deborah Dashow Ryan  
Kensington

### 'Death with dignity'

Editors, please stop calling it "assisted suicide" and start calling it "death with dignity."

In recent years, I have watched helplessly as first my mother and then my wife suffered to death with unremitting neuralgic pain. Their only escape was starvation, which is slow when one is on one's back and burning few calories.

The record from Oregon is clear: Very few patients actually receive lethal prescriptions after the required counseling, depression remediation and professional review. But doctors treating the desperate are forced to deal with their patients.

Our draconian drug laws lead many doctors to avoid narcotics until the bitter end, but the fact is that narcotics work when other medicines do not — they have been used by mankind through the ages for that reason.

Stop condemning unfortunate sufferers to months of agony. Keep the country at a distance from the sickbed, so that doctors can do the right thing.

John Mackinnon  
Albany

### Concerns about Alito

I listened to the Alito hearings and was concerned about his refusal to answer many questions.

He does not appear to be impartial. The record shows that he rules against environmental protections, against reproductive freedom, for Big Business, and unchecked presidential power, which is especially troubling in the light of the president's actions concerning spying on the American people and allowing torture.

We have so many big issues facing the country in the decades ahead, and I do not feel comfortable with this man having a seat on the Supreme Court, which is a lifetime appointment.

Editor's note: Some of these letters are reprinted from editions of the Contra Costa Times.

## YOUR ELECTED OFFICIALS

### Assembly

**Loni Hancock:** (D-14th District: Albany, Berkeley, El Cerrito, El Sobrante, Emeryville, Kensington, Richmond, San Pablo, North and West Oakland) State Capitol, P.O. Box 942849, Sacramento, CA 94249, 916-319-2014. Fax: 916-319-2114; 918 Parker St., Ste. A13, Berkeley, CA 94710, 510-540-3660; Fax: 510-540-3655; 712 El Cerrito Plaza, El Cerrito, CA 94530, 510-559-1406. Fax: 510-559-1478

### East Bay Regional Parks

**Jean Siri:** Ward 1 (Albany, Berkeley, Emeryville, El Cerrito, El Sobrante, Kensington, part of Pinole, and San Pablo). E-mail: jsiri@ebparks.org

### AC Transit

**Joe Wallace:** Ward 1 (West Contra Costa and Northern Alameda counties). E-mail: jwallace@actransit.org; phone 510-891-7143; fax 510-234-7689.

### Stage Sanitary District

Phone 510-524-4668 or see online at www.stagesd.dst.ca.us.

## NUMBERS YOU SHOULD KNOW

### Emergency numbers

El Cerrito or Kensington fire, police or medical: 911.  
Non-emergency  
El Cerrito and Kensington Fire — 510-215-4450.  
El Cerrito Police — 510-237-3233.  
Kensington Police — 510-233-1214; business line 510-526-4141.  
Sewer problems: Stage Sanitary Service, 510-524-4667.  
Water services: East Bay Municipal Utility District, 510-287-1380, between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. weekdays, or 510-835-3000 after 4:30 p.m.

### Libraries

El Cerrito — 8510 Stockton Ave. Open noon-8 p.m. Mondays and Tuesdays, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Thursdays, 1-5 p.m. Fridays and 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturdays. Closed Wednesdays and Sundays.  
Kensington — 61 Arlington Ave. Open noon-8 p.m. Mondays and Tuesdays, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Thursdays, 1-5 p.m. Fridays and 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturdays. Closed Wednesdays and Sundays.  
510-524-3043.

### Parks and recreation

El Cerrito Recreation Programs — Community Center, 7007 Mooser Lane. Meeting rooms, classes, pool. 510-215-4370.  
Canyon Trail Art Center — 6757 Gatto St., El Cerrito. Instruction for children and adults. 510-215-4370 or 510-215-4394.  
Kensington Recreation — Community Center, 59 Arlington Ave. 510-233-0292.

### Senior centers

El Cerrito Committee on Aging — Meets at 3 p.m. the third Wednesday of each month at the El Cerrito Community Center, 7007 Mooser Lane. Ellen Paasch, 510-215-4340.  
Christ Lutheran Senior Center — 780

### County Supervisors

**John Gioia:** (1st District) 11780 San Pablo Ave., Suite D, El Cerrito, CA 94530, 510-374-3231. Fax: 510-374-3429. E-mail: dist1@bos.co.contra-costa.ca.us.

**Keith Carson:** (5th District) 1221 Oak St., Ste. 536, Oakland, CA 94612, 510-272-6695. Fax: 510-271-5151. E-mail: kcarson@co.alameda.ca.us.

### Cities

**El Cerrito:** City offices, 10890 San Pablo Ave., El Cerrito, 510-215-4300. E-mail: citycouncil@ci.el-cerrito.ca.us

**Albany:** City offices, 1000 San Pablo Ave., Albany, 510-528-5710.

**Kensington:** Fire Protection District 217 Arlington Blvd. 510-527-8395

Police Protection and Community Services District 217 Arlington Blvd. 510-526-4141

### School boards

**West Contra Costa Unified School District:** 510-620-2246

**Albany Unified School District:** 510-558-3766

Ashbury Ave. Meets 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Mondays. 510-524-1050.

St. John's Senior Center — 8500 Gladys Ave. Meets 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Tuesdays. 510-237-3808.

The Open House — 6500 Stockton Ave. Meets 9 a.m.-4 p.m. weekdays. 510-215-4340.

Kensington Senior Activity Center — Meets 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Thursdays at Arlington Community Church, 52 Arlington Ave. 510-526-9146.

### Public schools

Main office — 510-234-3825. Information office — 510-620-2245. www.wcusd.k12.ca.us.

### Elementary schools

Castro, 7125 Donal Ave., El Cerrito. 510-234-6200.

Fairmont, 724 Kearney St., El Cerrito. 510-525-5235.

Harding, 7230 Fairmont Ave., El Cerrito. 510-525-0273.

Kensington, 90 Highland Blvd. 510-526-7343.

Madera, 8500 Madera Drive, El Cerrito. 510-235-4499.

### Middle schools

Portola, 1021 Navellier St., El Cerrito. 510-524-0405.

### High schools

El Cerrito, 540 Ashbury Ave. 510-525-0234.

### Community organizations

El Cerrito Democratic Club — Meets 7:30 p.m. the fourth Tuesday of each month, Northminster Presbyterian Church, 545 Ashbury Ave., El Cerrito. 510-527-2194.

El Cerrito Garden Club — Meets at 9:30 a.m. the second Thursday of each month, except July and August, El Cerrito Community Center, 7007 Mooser Lane. 510-234-0135.



# Children choose their own books of the year

"The California Young Reader Medal (CYRM) program encourages recreational reading of popular literature among young people of our state. Since its inception in 1974, millions of California children have nominated, read and voted for the winners..."



JULIE WINKELSTEIN  
At the Library

IT IS THAT TIME of year again, when the hard work of the various children's book award committees culminates in the announcement of the winners. And — according to a press release I received from the American Library Association — this year, for the first time, there was a live webcast of the announcement.

In addition, 2006 is the first year for the Theodor Seuss Geisel Award, which honors the author and illustrator of an outstanding book for beginning readers.

By the time you read this, 13 awards will have been announced. These book awards include the Coretta Scott King award, which recognizes an African-American author and illustrator of outstanding books for children and young adults; the Pura Belpré, which honors Latino writers and illustrators whose work best portrays, affirms and celebrates a Latino cultural experience; and a work of literature for youth.

This is also the time of year when mock elections, as more and more libraries host their own versions of these awards. Usually, these are mock Newbery — for the most outstanding contribution to children's literature — and mock Caldecott — for the most distinguished American picture book. Kids; although there are other mock ones, such as the mock Sibert — for most distinguished informational book for children.

Many of the librarians who work on the Public Libraries for Young Adults and Children Library have been sharing the results of their mock elections. Recently, it seems to be adults who do the choosing. For instance, Deschutes Public Library in Bend, Ore., about 30 staff members met to choose their favorites of the Newbery. "Hitler Youth: Growing up in Hitler's shadow," by Susan Campbell Bartoletti, was their first choice. This book was also the first choice for the mock Sibert

Award from the children's librarians of the Dayton Metro Library in Ohio and the Allen County Library in Fort Wayne, Ind. The Dayton Library chose "Winter Lights: A Season in Poms and Quilts" by Anna Grossnickle Hines for its mock Caldecott.

The Toledo-Lucas County Public Library (Ohio) collaborated with The Reading Railroad Children's Bookstore in an adult program described as the "33rd annual Caldecott Read-In." Their winner was Jacqueline Woodson's book "Show Way," illustrated by Hudson Talbott. The Allen County Library chose the same book for its mock Caldecott.

A librarian from the Bedminster School in New Jersey posted the results from her mock Caldecott elections, conducted with more than 300 kindergarten through fifth-grade students. Their grand prize winner was the picture book "Roberto Clemente: Pride of the Pittsburgh Pirates," written by Jonah Winter and illustrated by Raul Colon.

Her process of involving students in this way is much like the California Young Reader Medal, which begins with the collection of recommendations from students all over the state. A committee narrows the titles to a "well-balanced list of nominees" and then issues a ballot. Students in classrooms and libraries read (or have read to them) all the books in a category, and then each student votes for one book per category. A teacher or librarian tabulates the votes, so that each school, classroom or library submits only one final ballot.

Both the mock elections and the CYRM are wonderful ways to help children (and adults) look more closely at the qualities that make a book memorable and unique. I particularly like the involvement of the children — it helps all of us remember the books for them.

Reach librarian Julie Winkelstein at [jwinkelstein@aclib.org](mailto:jwinkelstein@aclib.org) or at the Albany Library, 510-526-3720, Ext. 17.

## SENIOR ACTIVITIES

**Albany Senior Center** — Weekly, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. 846 Masonic Ave. Meeting room Mondays, 9 a.m. Papier mache, bridge, chess. 510-524-9122.

## Cerrito

**Christ Lutheran Senior Center** — Mondays, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. 780 Ashbury Ave. Conversational German and English, current events, computers, handicrafts and exercise. 510-524-9122.

## St. John's Senior Center

Tuesdays, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. 6500 Gladys Ave. Handicrafts, pressed-flower card-making, painting and drawing. Birth-

days will be celebrated Tuesday, and there will be a sing-along with Ligia Britto. 510-237-3808.

**The Open House** — Mondays-Thursdays, 8 a.m.-5 p.m., Fridays, 8 a.m.-4 p.m. 6500 Stockton Ave. Computer classes; monthly tea dance; art classes; Mind Works and weekly cash bingo. 510-215-4340.

## Kensington

**Kensington Senior Activity Center** — Thursdays, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Arlington Community Church, 52 Arlington Ave. There will be a potluck at noon on Thursday; bring a dish to serve four to six people or donate \$3. 510-526-9146.

## El Cerrito

**Alcance Medical Group**, Martin Serota, 402 Colusa Ave.  
**Bo's Donuts**, Jennifer Honthiem, 10386 San Pablo Ave.  
**Braga Trucking Co.**, Valdir Braga Ferreira, 6521 Manila Ave. #3  
**Computer Repair House**, Muhammad Farooq, 1512 South 56th St., Suite A  
**Fruel - A Non Profit Corporation**, Gregory Coble, 7235 Plank Ave.  
**Hardy Policy Consulting**, Kelly Hardy, 848 Pomona Ave.  
**Maggie's Coffee House**, Thayla Burton, 11740 San Pablo Ave.  
**O'Hanks Management Inc.**, Cathie O'Hanks, 11876 San Pablo Ave.  
**Reliance Cleaning Systems**, James Miller, 820 Kearney St.  
**The Erickson Institute**, Carol Erickson, 865 Arlington St.  
**The Red Onion**, Silvia Figueroa, 11900 San Pablo Ave.  
**www.NarrativeApproaches.com**, Dean Lobovits, 709 Balra Drive

## Kensington

**Brain Gain Recruiting**, Irina Shamaeva, 293 Grizzly Peak Blvd.  
**Kensington Cleaners**, Sungsil Lee, 374 Colusa Ave.

## BUSINESS NAME FILINGS

The following individuals or corporations filed fictitious-business-name statements inameda and Contra Costa counties. The Journal makes every effort to ensure accuracy but cannot be held responsible for errors or omissions on this list. The Journal gathers information from fictitious-business-name filings with the counties; not all listings are businesses. These listings are a public service and do not imply requirements that business owners advertise legal notice of their business names.

## any

**Thing Thai Cuisine**, Chalorn Limnang, 905 San Pablo Ave.  
**Generative Land and Water Management**, Wima Keppel, 1058 Pomona Ave.  
**Key Shack Locksmith**, Anthony Scioia, 1089 San Pablo Ave.

## BOOKING FOR FAMILY ACTIVITIES?

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## LIBRARY ACTIVITIES

### Albany Library

1247 Marin Ave.  
510-526-3720 or [www.aclibrary.org](http://www.aclibrary.org)

**Hours:** Monday, noon to 6 p.m.; Tuesday, noon to 8 p.m.; Wednesday, noon to 8 p.m.; Thursday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Friday, closed; Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The library kicks off its new program, "Movie Wednesdays for Teens," on Wednesday at 5 p.m. with a film series introducing the work of the legendary anime creator Hayao Miyazaki, known as the "Disney of Japan." Miyazaki's movies include "Spirited Away," "Kiki's Delivery Service," "My Neighbor Totoro" and "Howl's Moving Castle." This program is aimed at middle-schoolers and high-schoolers. Please note that some of the films in this series are rated PG-13, and may not be suitable for younger children. Movie Wednesdays for Teens takes place the first Wednesday of each month. All films will be shown in the Edith Stone Room. They start at 5 p.m. and finish up by 7:15 p.m. at the latest. To find out the titles of the films planned, visit the Teen Area at the Albany Library or contact Teen Services Librarian Julia Witwer at Ext. 20.

The library will present featured poet, author and essayist Kate Gale on Thursday from 7 to 9 p.m. Gale is the author of five collections of poetry, as well as a novel, "Lake of Fire," and a bilingual children's book, "African Sleeping Beauty." Her most recent poetry collection is "Mating Season" (Tupelo). The event will be held in the Edith Stone Room. Cookies will be served. Questions? Call Julie Winkelstein at Ext. 17.

The library will present a drop-in poetry-writing workshop on Feb. 8 from 7 to 9 p.m. led by Alison Seevak, an Albany poet and teacher. The event will be held in the Edith Stone room. Cookies will be served. Questions? Call Julie Winkelstein at Ext. 17.

Children will have an opportunity to create a colorful collage valentine from 3 to 5 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 11. Using an array of materials — fabric, ribbon, yarn and more — and lots of art supplies, participants will create one-of-a-kind valentines. This

workshop will be led by Adria McCuaig, a teacher, tutor and art instructor. The workshop will be held in the Edith Stone Room, and is for all ages. No registration is required. Cookies will be served. Questions? Call Julie Winkelstein at Ext. 17.

Join a great books discussion group that meets on the fourth Tuesday of the month from 1-2 p.m. The theme is "Parent and Child Anthology," available from Great Books Foundation ([www.greatbooks.org](http://www.greatbooks.org); 800-222-5870). February's book is "The Kite Runner" by Khaled Hosseini (any edition). For more information, contact Ronnie Davis at Ext. 16 or [rdavis@aclibrary.org](mailto:rdavis@aclibrary.org)

The library offers free drop-in homework help for students in third through fifth grades. The Homework Center is open Mondays and Thursdays (except county holidays), from 3 to 5:30 p.m. Emphasis is placed on math and writing skills. No registration is required. For more information, call Julie Winkelstein at Ext. 17 or [jwinkelstein@aclibrary.org](mailto:jwinkelstein@aclibrary.org).

Preschool story time will be held every Saturday morning in the Edith Stone Room at 11 a.m. through Feb. 18. This 30-minute drop-in event is for 3- to 5-year-olds, and it includes stories, songs, books and a simple craft. No registration required. Questions? Call Julie Winkelstein at Ext. 17.

Weekly singalongs are held Wednesdays at 4:30 p.m. by Dale Allen Boland. The singalongs are free and for all ages. No registration is required. For information, contact Julie Winkelstein at Ext. 17.

Drop-in knitting groups for all ages are held Tuesdays at 3:30 p.m. Work on your own project or make pet blankets and children's hats for victims of recent disasters. Instructions, yarn and needles are provided for library projects. No registration is necessary. For more information, contact Julie Winkelstein at Ext. 17.

### El Cerrito Library

6510 Stockton Ave.  
510-526-7512 or [www.cccil.org](http://www.cccil.org)

**Hours:** Monday and Tuesday, noon to 8 p.m.; Wednesday, closed; Thursday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Friday, 1 to 5

p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The winter series of lap-sit story times (formerly known as babytime and toddler time) will continue through Feb. 16. These story times, which meet Thursdays at 10:15 and 11 a.m., are for babies and toddlers up to age 3 and their caregivers. Each meeting lasts about 20 minutes, and includes songs, bounces, games and finger plays in addition to the stories. No registration required.

Children ages 3 and up and their families are invited Saturday at 11 a.m. for a Lunar New Year program presented by storyteller Clara Yen to celebrate the beginning of the Year of the Dog.

Children in grades 1-6 are invited to read books and earn prizes by participating in the library's "I Love to Read" club this winter. To participate in the club, each child needs to pick up a reading record at the library, and use it to list 10 books he or she reads between Dec. 1 and Feb. 28. The reading records can be returned to the library any time during February for display on the library's bulletin board. Each finisher will receive a paperback book, a bookmark and two Hershey's Kisses.

Children ages 3 and up and their families are invited to a series of Monday-evening family story times through Feb. 13. Each of the meetings, which will include songs and finger plays as well as stories, will begin at 7 p.m. and last about a half-hour. The themes for the remaining story times will be "Dress Up Time" on Jan. 30, "Wild Bears!" on Feb. 6 and "Valentine's Day Stories" on Feb. 13.

Join Rosemary Gong, author of "Good Luck Life, The Essential Guide to Chinese American Celebrations and Culture," to say goodbye to the Year of the Rooster and hello to the Year of the Dog on Jan. 31 at 7 p.m. Learn the rituals of this spring festival, including foods, decorations, lions, dragons and Kitchen God.

Readers Anonymous, the library's book club, meets at 7 p.m. on the fourth Tuesday of each month. Everyone is welcome. Following are the upcoming book selections:

Feb. 28 — "Love in the Time of Cholera" by Gabriel Garcia Marquez  
March 28 — "Queen of Dreams" by

Chitra Banerjee Divakaruni

April 25 — "The Great Fire" by Shirley Hazzard

May 23 — "Stones for Ibarra" by Harriet Doerr

June 27 — "Gilead" by Marilynne Robinson

If you would like to learn about the Internet or basic word processing, the library offers hourlong appointments on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays. Its Internet Docs will help you learn as much or as little as you would like. Call the library to make an appointment.

### Kensington Library

61 Arlington Ave.  
510-524-3043 or [www.cccil.org](http://www.cccil.org)

**Hours:** Monday and Tuesday, noon to 8 p.m.; Wednesday, closed; Thursday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Friday, 1 to 5 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

A Valentine's Day crafts and story time will be held Tuesday, Feb. 14, from 7 to 7:30 p.m. All ages welcome.

Children ages 5 and older will learn how to become a titled knight from the Middle Ages and be granted a balloon sword, which will prepare them to participate in a comedy routine, during a Hard Day's Knight on Tuesday, Feb. 21, at 6:30 p.m.

A special annual celebration of Dr. Seuss' birthday will be held at the Kensington Community Center at 59 Arlington Ave., up the hill from the Kensington Library, on Saturday, Feb. 25, at 11 a.m. The party will feature a dramatization of "Green Eggs and Ham," games with prizes, and actual green eggs and ham to eat. Because of the popularity of this event, a limited number of free tickets will be required and available starting Feb. 21. All ages are welcome.

The next meeting of the library's book club will be Monday, Feb. 27, at 7 p.m. February's selection is Ann Packer's "The Dive From Clausen's Pier." Copies of this novel will be held on reserve at the library. Book club meetings are held on the fourth Monday of every month at the library at 7 p.m.

Family story times are held Tuesday evenings at 7 p.m. All ages welcome.

— Craig Lazeretti

# Exhibit details long, colorful history of Carquinez Straits

MARTINEZ AND Carquinez Regional Shoreline include sites that are part of the long and colorful history of the Carquinez Straits. The regional parks' role in preserving this history will be showcased with an exhibit from Feb. 1 through May 31 at the Contra Costa County Historical Society's History Center, which is located at 610 Main St. in Martinez.

Titled "Carquinez Shoreline: From the Rivers to the Sea," the exhibit will feature birds of the shoreline, the Martinez fishing industry, the canneries, the grain wharves, and railroad and ferry transportation. Besides lots of artifacts and photos, there will be mannequins dressed as a fisherman and a cannery worker. Admission is free.

The History Center is open from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesdays through Thursdays. When the center is closed, some of the exhibits can still be seen in a display window in front. And several walks to historic sites are scheduled as part of the exhibit. A schedule will be available at the center.

There will be a public reception at the center from 1 to 4 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 25. For details on the exhibit and related programs, phone 925-757-2620.

Soft-sculpture artist Lezlie Kinyon, whose work is on display through this month at Tilden Regional Park's Environmental Education Center in Berkeley, will be the guest of



honor at a reception at the center from 2 to 4 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 4. She will demonstrate and discuss her papier-mâché "poppets," and light refreshments will be served. For details, phone the center at 510-525-2233.

Newts, those golden-bellied relatives of the salamander, will be the stars of several natural history programs in the next few days. This Saturday, naturalist Nancy Krebs will lead a hike from 10 a.m. to noon at Sibley Volcanic Regional Preserve on Skyline Boulevard in Oakland. The destination is a pool where newts breed in the winter. Participants will learn about the unusual physiology and life cycle of the creatures.

Nancy's program is geared for ages 7 and older. It's free of charge. For directions and details, phone 510-521-6887.

Then on Sunday, Feb. 5, there's a new program from 2 to 4 p.m. at Tilden for children aged 7 through 12. Participants will make trading cards, have a

snack and look for newts nearby in the Tilden Nature Area. Registration is required for this program, and there's a fee of \$5 per child (\$7 for nondistrict residents). Phone 510-636-1684 for details.

There's another new program at Sibley from 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 11. Naturalist Gail Broeders will lead a walk to the newt pond and also point out the park's volcanic features. For details, phone 510-521-6887.

You can explore the East Bay Regional Park District's most recently opened park by joining a hike from 8 to 11 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 11, at Brushy Peak Regional Preserve, with naturalist Cat Taylor as your guide.

Brushy Peak is located between Brentwood and Livermore. The hike will cover 2½ miles round trip and is designed for ages 7 and older. Along the way, you may see golden eagles and other birds

of prey, while learning about the peak's long history of human and animal habitation. It's free of charge; phone 925-862-2601 for details and directions.

Carol Severin is the new president of the East Bay Regional Park District board of directors for the year 2006. A resident of Castro Valley, Carol is a retired professor of recreation at San Francisco State University. She has been on the park district board since 1994. Prior to that, she served 14 years as a board member of the Hayward Area Recreation and Park District. Carol has held statewide positions with the California Association of Recreation and Park Districts, of which she is currently president. She succeeds Beverly Lane of Danville, who served as board president during 2005.

Ned MacKay writes about East Bay Regional Park District sites and activities. E-mail him at [nedmackay@comcast.net](mailto:nedmackay@comcast.net).

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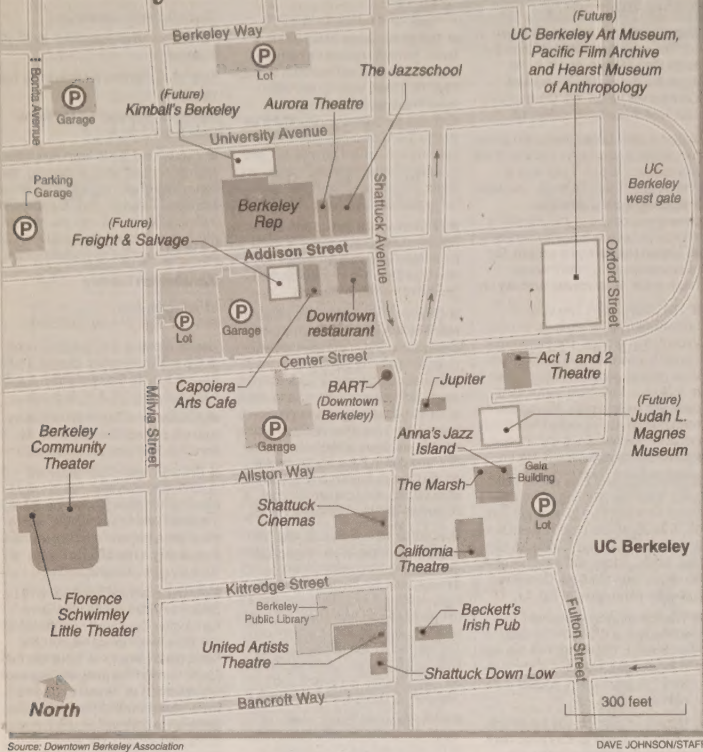
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## Berkeley's downtown arts district



Source: Downtown Berkeley Association

DAVE JOHNSON/STAFF

## Shattuck area experiences cultural, epicurean rebirth

By Robert Taylor  
STAFF WRITER

When Susan Medak arrived for a job interview at Berkeley Repertory Theatre in 1990, downtown Berkeley was so disreputable that the theater was considering moving to Oakland. "Downtown was at its absolute worst," recalls Medak, who got that job as the theater's managing director. "You couldn't walk down Shattuck Avenue without tripping over multiple panhandlers."

What a difference 16 years makes. Walk down Shattuck Avenue on a Friday night these days, and there are signs of vitality everywhere. Theatergoers line the streets, the clubs are hopping, and restaurants are filled with diners.

It has been a long struggle to make downtown Berkeley come alive again. And some longtime residents still mourn the loss of Hinks department store, Edy's ice cream parlor and the UC Theater with its ever-changing schedule of movies.

But change was inevitable, and Berkeley Rep has been the driving force that has turned its block of Addison Street into an official, city-supported Downtown Arts District. That in turn has generated the growth of theater and live music attractions nearby.

A grant from the city helped Berkeley Rep build its downtown theater, which opened in 1980. A few years later, a new city development plan suggested that the arts might revitalize downtown, luring theater audiences that would patronize restaurants and retail stores. One blow during that era was the closing of Hinks.

"Berkeley downtown was starting to look like other downtowns around the country," says Dave Fogarty, the city's economic development coordinator. "In other words, vacant and derelict."

The Aurora Theatre moved next door in 2001, the same year Berkeley Rep opened its second stage, the 600-seat Roda Theatre.

The Jazzschool, with its expansive schedule of classes and performances, took the corner spot at Shattuck Avenue in 2002. The "pioneers" on Addison Street benefited from city-sponsored improvements, such as poetry plaques in the sidewalk and displays worthy of an art gallery in the windows of a nearby parking garage.

The city has continued to encourage projects with grants or

**"For me, coming from New York, I'm just into the synergy of it. There's an excitement about it — that downtown-at-night feeling."**

— Tom Ross,  
artistic director of the Aurora

loans to the Aurora Theatre and Freight & Salvage Coffee House, which bought a building across from Berkeley Rep for a planned move in 2009.

Across the street from Aurora and Berkeley Rep, there is live music at Downtown restaurant and, within a few blocks, at Jupiter, Beckett's Irish pub, Shattuck Down Low and on weekends at other venues such as Ristorante Raphael.

Last summer, Anna's Jazz Island opened three blocks away on Allston Way, and San Francisco's experimental Marsh Theatre opened its first East Bay venue, moving into the space next door.

"The nightlife is just waiting to achieve critical mass," says David Blake, a freelance editor who lives near downtown. He's a member of the city board that approved a permit last month for Kimball's jazz club to take over the vacant UC Theater.

"If Kimball's succeeds, that would really ignite the downtown arts district," Blake says.

The jazz-oriented nightclub and restaurant could be just the beginning of downtown Berkeley's next phase of development. Here's what is coming:

■ **Kimball's Berkeley:** The celebrated club, which closed in Emeryville, plans to turn the UC Theater space on University Avenue into a dinner theater and jazz club, with seating for about 600 patrons.

Development of the theater has long been rumored and delayed, but last month the city issued a use permit to Gloria Mendoza and Michael Govan of Orinda. No opening date has been set.

"It will revitalize a whole section of the downtown at night,"

says the city's Fogarty.

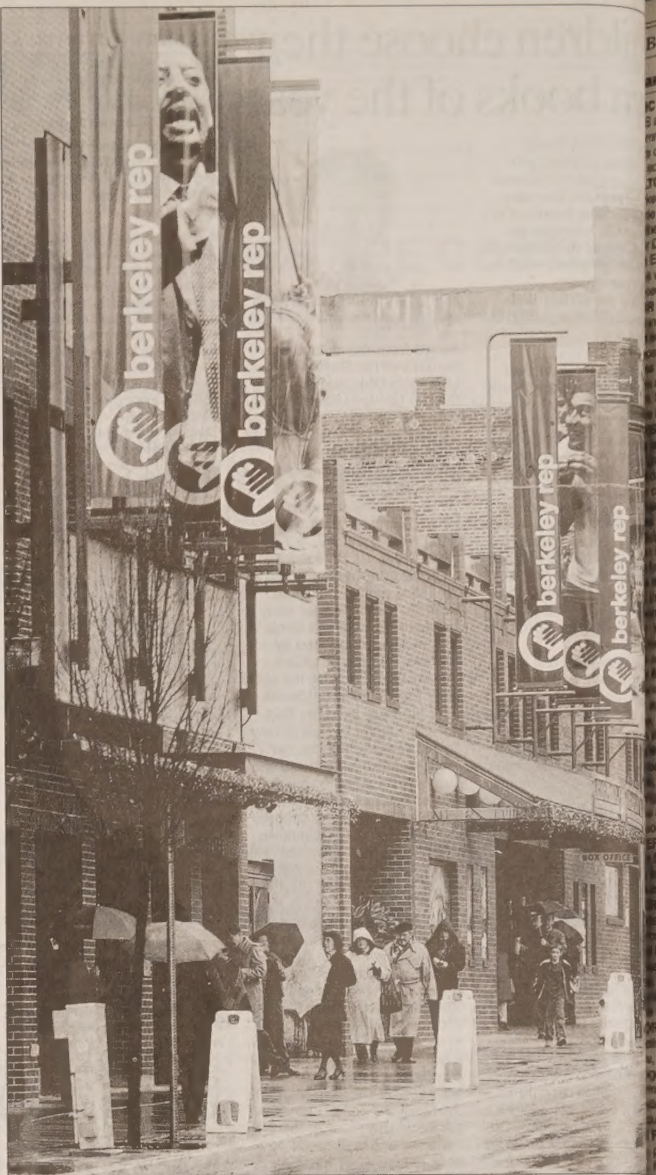
■ **Freight & Salvage Coffee House:** This popular acoustic music venue, which has presented Holly Near, Dave Grisman and Chris Williamson in recent weeks, is now in a cramped space on Addison Street near San Pablo Avenue. It has purchased adjoining buildings on Addison near Shattuck, across from Berkeley Rep, and plans to build a 450-seat club with a smaller performing space. About \$3 million of the \$7 million project has been raised so far, says executive director Steve Baker. It could open in 2009.

■ **Magnes Museum:** The center for Jewish art, culture and history, now located in a converted home on Russell Street, expects to move in 2010 to a building it already owns on Allston Way between Shattuck and Oxford Street. The move would triple the museum's gallery space.

■ **UC Berkeley Art Museum:** The eye-catching museum on Bancroft Way was damaged in the Loma Prieta earthquake. It's less expensive to replace it than repair it, but the new museum planned downtown on Oxford Street still has a \$30 million to \$40 million price tag. The new facility will be 30 percent to 40 percent larger, and will also include new exhibit space for the university's Hearst Museum of Anthropology. The planned opening is in 2011 or 2012.

So the downtown momentum continues. Tom Ross, artistic director of the Aurora, says he loves it when the theaters and Jazzschool are in the midst of performances, and Downtown restaurant is buzzing across the street.

"For me, coming from New York, I'm just into the synergy of it," Ross says. "There's an ex-



**BERKELEY REP** has been the driving force that has turned its block of Addison Street into an city-supported Downtown Arts District. That in turn has generated the growth of theater and live attractions nearby.

citement about it — that downtown-at-night feeling."

That buzz lighted a couple of blocks away last summer, when the Marsh theater and Anna's Jazz Island opened side-by-side in the new Gaia building on Allston Way.

"Presenting music to the community isn't a way to get rich, although it's a wonderful life," says Anna's owner — and jazz singer — Anna de Leon.

Last June, de Leon moved her club, after a long delay, from its previous spot on University near Martin Luther King Jr. Way. She likes the vitality of the location, between a BART station and the UC campus, and is happy to be "part of the revitalization of downtown."

Inside the 91-seat club, the atmosphere is bold, tropical, jazzy and East Bay-oriented. There's a colorful painting next to the corner stage; also potted palms and woven-wicker furniture, posters depicting Count Basie and Earl "Fatha" Hines, and one promoting Sweet's Ballroom, once a popular venue in downtown Oakland.

There's food too, with pastas, pizzas and other items provided by Ristorante Raphael, the nearby kosher Italian vegetarian restaurant.

The music mix (every night but Monday) has included the

Dick Conte Trio and Cuban-born Bobi Cespedes, and there are Brazilian nights on Sundays.

De Leon, ever involved with the community, schedules Berkeley High School jazz combos on the second Wednesday of every month, UC jazz ensembles on the fourth Wednesday, and occasional appearances by musicians from the Jazzschool.

Next door, the Marsh has expanded the tradition it developed in San Francisco's Mission District as "a breeding ground for new performance."

"People walk in the door and say, 'We're so glad you're in Berkeley now,'" says Stephanie Weisman, founding director of the Marsh, which opened this second venue last August. "It feels as if we've become part of their community very quickly."

One of the first hits at the Marsh Berkeley was Amos Glick and Ed Homes' "The Dick 'N Dubya Show," touted as "a Republican outreach cabaret" to win the hearts and minds of Berkeley liberals.

"Cirque do Somethin,'" a kind of improv juggling comedy, was a hit last month, and the run was extended through today and next Saturday.

W. Allen Taylor's one-man show about an African-Ameri-

can disc jockey, "Walkin' Bill Hawkins ... In Search of Father," runs through

The Marsh Berkeley, on a part-time, weekend schedule, since it shares its space with a catering company. Weisman said the theater has an audience for every

"Most of our shows are the social and political of our time," she says. "I definitely Marsh — definitely Berkeley."

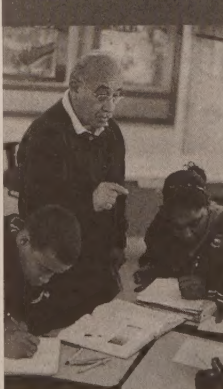
In addition to theaters, the visual arts have a major presence downtown, with the next five or six years, museums and the Pacific Film Archive are on their way.

The museums will have their galleries and series will stay open late six weeks, and, with a look block from BART, also broaden their regional

The new UC Berkeley Museum, on Oxford Street and Addison Street, will include a restaurant, new space for educational programs and events, and expanded Pacific Film Archive. There will be two theater film screenings, with about 600 seats.

See SHATTUCK, P.

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# ALBANY SCHOOL NOTES

## any High School

**LESSONS:** Music students from S are available to give lessons to minor and middle school students. S of student teachers are posted in schools.

**STORY CONTRIBUTION:** The Albany Realtors Association has given a contribution to AHS in gratitude for the AHS combo, which played at Dec. 2 benefit for the Youth Arts Education Fund. Future applications will be made for grants from the proceeds of the benefit.

**OPENINGS:** If you are a student looking for a different class for the semester, there is still plenty of room in choir. You will be able to experience yourself through song, and go on an exciting trip to Los Angeles in See Mr. Ulrich in Room 22 for information.

**ST DONATIONS:** All AHS students can support the Class of 2006 graduation events while building a fund for similar fund-raising for classes. Two local Albany florists donated 5 percent of their profit to the Class of '06 if they are told you want to donate in the program. All you have to do is mention it when you make a purchase from their stores. To the donor, the class of '06 can be extended to future classes. This is flower Winter Ball, Valentine's Day and the corner, followed by spring celebrations. Consider purchasing flowers at Golden Poppy, 1160 Broadway, same block as the post office across the street, or La Vie en Rose, 1272 Solano, directly across the Key Route center divider.

**ING ELECTRONICS:** A significant number of small electronics, particularly those that have disappeared at school. It is suggested that students leave their electronics at home during the school day.

**WINTER BALL:** Dress Ball is Saturday, Jan. 8-12. Dress is semi-formal. The dress code will be enforced. Tickets are now \$35.

**GRANTS:** The PTA mini-grants are available. Everyone who submitted a grant should pick up his or her permit in the office. Letters are addressed to the first name on each project. Copies of the final grant list, including grant amounts, are available in the office as well.

**ON BULLETIN:** The January Senior class is available in the counseling office, and on the AHS Web site. New year, scholarship and financial aid information is included in the Senior year. Be sure to check out the numerous new scholarship listings.

**FOR COLLEGE:** Cash for Col presented by East Bay Consortium helps with completing your application. To pre-register for a workshop, visit [eastbayconsortium.org](http://eastbayconsortium.org). Get free one-on-one help with the FAFSA, Cal State, scholarships and more. A workshop is scheduled for Saturday, Feb. 4, noon at Contra Costa College. Five dates and sites are available on the website.

**SHADOW DAY:** Job Shadow Day is a opportunity for students to experience the real world by shadowing a mentor for a day of interest to them. More than 100 juniors have signed up to participate in this event, and volunteers are needed to set up students in their chosen career.

**MENTORS:** Make sure the mentors have information they need to create a day for the kids. Students interested in jobs in business, design, music, and social work/social sciences are still waiting to be placed with mentors. This is a great way to get involved and help create an event that will shape our students' futures. We have a database of mentors and mentors you'll need. The project will be completed by early March, and all

**ATTACK:** The planned downtown cluster of museums, within a block of each other, will benefit everybody, says Wander. "As cultural partners, we're only going to benefit from being shoulder to shoulder."

**JOHN MARTIN:** owner of Jupiter on Shattuck, has been following development since the beer emporium opened in 1993, near the end of what he calls "the dark ages of downtown." Since then, Jupiter has become a busy spot for live music six nights a week and touts itself as "the East Bay's premiere alternative jazz venue."

**DOWNTOWN:** is currently in a transition period, says Martin. "Fourth Street is where Berkeley retail is happening," he says. "Downtown is going to become, over time, Berkeley's cultural center."

**HE'S ACTUALLY:** looking forward to a competitor, Kimball's, moving into the neighborhood. "I see that as a very good thing to happen. We need investment downtown. The more the merrier."

**REACH ROBERT TAYLOR:** at 925-977-8428 or [rtaylor@cctimes.com](mailto:rtaylor@cctimes.com).

**THE FARMERS' MARKET:** at EL CERRITO PLAZA. Voted #1 Farmers' Market in West Contra Costa.

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**Smiles Day School:** Preschool Program Before and After School Program. 5621 Thornhill Drive Oakland, CA 339-3830.

arrangements can be made from the comfort of your home. If you're interested or have any questions, contact career coordinator Becca Burns at 510-558-2508.

## Albany Middle School

**YEARBOOK ORDERS:** Order your yearbook now and save money. The deadline to reserve yearbooks at the \$25 price is the end of January. Turn your envelope into your fifth-period teachers. If you lost your form, there are more in the school office.

**EXCHANGE STUDENT:** A Spanish family on a one-year sabbatical at UC Berkeley, with children at Marin School in Albany, has friends in Spain with a 12-year-old daughter who wants to come over for a month in the summer, starting between June 20 and July 1, and who would like to stay with a family to learn English and perhaps to do some travel. This arrangement could also work as an exchange if the family has young teenagers who would be interested in visiting Spain. If you are aware of a family that could be interested in hosting her, please contact Beatriz Salgado at 510-526-9857 or [bsalgado-riz@gmail.com](mailto:bsalgado-riz@gmail.com).

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:** AMS parent volunteers are needed to chaperone the Valentine dance on Friday, Feb. 10, from 7-9 p.m. Contact Margot at 510-524-7131 or [grabano@tmi.net](mailto:grabano@tmi.net).

**DISASTER PREPAREDNESS:** AMS continues to improve its level of preparedness for a disaster. It is upgrading the classroom emergency supplies, and needs volunteer help. On as-yet-undetermined future dates, it will gather at AMS to work on this. If you can help, please e-mail Camela at [turtlerp@tptie@yahoo.com](mailto:turtlerp@tptie@yahoo.com).

**SPELLING BEE CHAMP:** Congratulations to the AMS spelling bee champ, seventh-grader Audrey Ronningen. Audrey will participate in the county-wide spelling bee in February. The second-place champ was eighth grader Dina Fu, and the third-place champ was sixth-grader Alan Wang.

**Cornell Elementary**

**BOOK FAIR:** The PTA is seeking at least four co-chairs and a group of other volunteers for the Book Fair March 13-16. If you can help, contact Eden O'Brien-Brenner at [edobrienbrenner@bayma.com](mailto:edobrienbrenner@bayma.com).

**KINDERGARTEN ELEMENTARY:** Kindergarten orientation for 2006-07 will take place at Cornell on Wednesday, Feb. 15 at 7 p.m. in the multipurpose room. Kindergarten registration will be held at the Albany Community Center on Wednesday, March 1 starting at 9 a.m.

**OPEN ENROLLMENT:** Between March 1 and March 31, parents of current Albany students can fill out an open enrollment form to request another Albany school for their child. Requests are honored if there is space available. Parents who wish to continue at the same school do not need to fill out a form. These forms will be sent home Feb. 24.

**SPELLATHON:** The annual spellathon is coming in February. This event helps raise funds for Cornell School, and also helps students improve spelling skills. More information about this event will be coming home with students.

**MIDDLE SCHOOL PTA:** The next Middle School PTA meeting is Feb. 2 at 7 p.m. in the AMS library. This is an informal night for questions/answers regarding middle school, and is open to all elementary parents, but particularly the fifth-grade parents. They will have another parent night in conjunction with PTA Open House on April 27.

**PTA COOKBOOK:** You are invited to submit a recipe for the Cornell PTA International Cookbook. Recipes from your culture or family traditions are especially welcome. Pick up the recipe form in the office, fill it out, and place it in the Cor-

nell PTA International Cookbook folder in the PTA box in the office or e-mail the recipe, including information from the form, to [rees.linda@comcast.net](mailto:rees.linda@comcast.net). The cookbooks will be available for sale at the start of the next school year, and the proceeds will support the school. For information or to volunteer to help, call Linda Reeves at 510-559-9782.

## Marin Elementary

**PTA DISCUSSION:** The PTA Parent Education Committee presents "Handling the Daily Struggles with Our Children," an interactive discussion facilitated by Dr. Stephanie Weissman, psychologist, on Thursday Feb. 16, from 7-8:30 p.m. in the multipurpose room. The workshop will focus on the chronic household conflicts about homework, chores, practicing and TV/computer time, and will provide parents and caregivers tools to create a more peaceful household, while encouraging children to take appropriate responsibility. Free child care is available by reservation by contacting Lisa at [ljfriedman@mac.com](mailto:ljfriedman@mac.com) or 510-524-1243.

## Ocean View Elementary

**STAFF WORKSHOPS:** Two staff development workshops for the school year are scheduled for Friday, Feb. 3 and Friday, March 24.

**NEWSLETTER VOLUNTEERS:** The school is seeking volunteers to help translate portions of the newsletter and surveys to Korean and Chinese. If you can help, please contact the office at 510-528-6480.

**CONFLICT RESOLUTION:** Teachers and staff have recently been trained in conflict resolution using Tribes and LifeSkills. Teachers work to act as neutral mediators to help students find peaceful resolutions to conflict. If you have questions, please contact principal Julie Valdez.

## Education funders

**FOOD FOR THOUGHT:** On the fourth Thursday of each month, the Albany Education Foundation and the Solano Grill & Bar offer "Food for Thought," a fixed-price menu to people who present the coupon posted to the files on the AEF Web site at [www.albanyeducation.org](http://www.albanyeducation.org). Adult meals are \$35 plus tax and tip with a choice of starters, entrees, and desserts. A children's menu is available on request. For each coupon, SB&G will donate \$20 to the Albany Education Foundation to support grant programs and school projects. Reservations are encouraged. SB&G is at 1133 Solano Ave. For more information about "Food for Thought," call 510-558-6823.

**BOARD OPENINGS:** The Albany Education Foundation seeks volunteers for its board of directors. If you would like to be considered, please contact Dianne McHenry at [McHenryD@aol.com](mailto:McHenryD@aol.com) or Sally Outis at [outis@sboglobal.net](mailto:outis@sboglobal.net).

**JAZZ BAND VOLUNTEERS:** The Albany Music Fund reports that jazz band parent volunteers are needed for the Santa Cruz Jazz Festival. Approximately six driver/chaperones are needed from the morning of Friday, March 31, to the afternoon of Sunday, April 2. This is a chance to be a part of the trip to Santa Cruz, dinners with the jazz band and other parents, performances of the AHS band and combos and finally enjoying a day on the beach and boardwalk. Contact Meiling Lincoff at [lincoffa@aol.com](mailto:lincoffa@aol.com) for further information and to volunteer.

**TRUMPET TRIO:** Albany trumpet trio Adam Louie, Adrian Connolly and Casey Osburn performed during the Christmas season on Solano Avenue and earned \$50, paid by the Solano Avenue Merchants Association. The group donated this money to the Albany Music Fund, which thanks them for their generosity.

— Bob Menzinger

# EL CERRITO/KENSINGTON SCHOOL NEWS

## Harding Elementary

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:** Parent volunteers are needed to escort children to the Harding After School Enrichment Program (HASEP) classes during the first few weeks of the winter term. If you can do this, contact Patty at [pen-rado@yahoo.com](mailto:pen-rado@yahoo.com).

**PTA MEETING:** The next PTA meeting will be held Monday, Feb. 6 at 7 p.m. at the Harding Library. Child care will be provided.

**KINDERGARTEN TOUR:** A kindergarten tour will be held Wednesday, Feb. 8 at 9 a.m. in the Harding Library. It will include a presentation by parents and principal, classroom tours, complimentary coffee and pastries provided by Starbucks and Semifreddi's Bakery. Please RSVP to school office at 510-231-1413.

**RUMMAGE SALE:** A rummage sale will be held April 29. Please save clean furniture and household items in good working condition: clothes, toys, small appliances (coffee makers), small tools and antiques. Proceeds support art, music and science programs. Bring your items to the school office. Rummage Sale Coordinators: Cathie Gonzales-Leone, Lisa Bolton and Carla Campbell.

**BOX TOPS:** The Box Tops for Education deadline is Friday, Feb. 10. Look for the "Box Tops Education" logo on the products you purchase. Bring your coupons, labels and box tops to the school office. Coordinator: Margaret Wolfe.

**HOLLYWOOD AUCTION:** The Harding Goes Hollywood Auction will be held Saturday, March 18. Parents are encouraged to ask their employers for donations; personal services are always welcome (last year, parents donated massage certificates and private yoga lessons). Kid-friendly movies or computer games in good condition, vacation rentals and restaurant gift certificates are popular too. Auction coordinators: Brenda Mitchell and Martina Hanka.

**TEACHER NOMINATIONS:** The Ed Fund is now accepting nominations for the 2006 Excellence in Teaching Award. Nomination forms are available on the Ed Fund Web site at [www.edfundwest.org](http://www.edfundwest.org). The deadline is Feb. 1.

## Kensington Elementary

**SUPERVISOR NEEDED:** The school still needs assistance with traffic patrol and noon duty supervision. If you are interested, contact the office at 510-231-1415.

**YEARBOOK DEADLINE:** Jan. 31 is the new deadline for early orders of K-6 yearbook. Order by Jan. 31 for only \$20; after that date they will be \$25. For more information, contact Christine Mewha at 510-527-7579 or Jennifer Iacullo at 510-526-3728. Please make checks payable to "KEF". Include child's name, teacher's name and classroom number.

**GIFT CARDS:** Purchase \$20 Peet's Coffee gift cards, and 10 percent of proceeds go back to KEF. Use gift cards at

any Peet's Coffee or shop online. Drop off or pick up at school. To make arrangements, contact Victoria Curtis at 510-305-7775 or [vc Curtis@earthlink.net](mailto:vc Curtis@earthlink.net) or Nora Hirose at 510-367-9295.

**CARD SALE:** A year-round card sale with five designs created by student artists at Kensington Elementary will benefit its sister school in Baton Rouge, La., where one-third of the school's population lost their homes during last year's hurricanes. The cards are sold in packs of 12 for \$10. Cards are available at Arlington Pharmacy, 299 Arlington Ave., Kensington; and Sotto Voce, 1845 Solano Ave., Berkeley. For more information, contact Tre Curran at 510-527-8384. View the cards online at [kensington-school.org/upcoming.html](http://kensington-school.org/upcoming.html).

## Madera Elementary

**KINDERGARTEN TOURS:** Madera will be offering kindergarten tours for parents wanting to learn more about Madera on Tuesday, Jan. 31 at 10:30 a.m.; Friday, Feb. 17 at 10:30 a.m.; and Friday, March 17 at 2 p.m. The tour will include an overview of Madera school, a discussion of the kindergarten curriculum, and a tour of the classrooms, playground, library and computer lab. The tours will last about an hour, and are for adults only (however, adults and children are invited to attend the Madera Open House on March 23). Those interested should call the office at 510-231-1412, Ext. 0 for an appointment.

## El Cerrito High School

**PASTA FUND-RAISER:** A dinner to benefit the El Cerrito High School girls soccer team will be held Saturday, Feb. 4, at the Kensington Youth Hut. It will feature homemade sauces prepared by Jamal Jawad, who has a senior daughter, Jeryna, on the varsity team. Tickets are \$12 each or four for \$40. For more information, call 510-237-3847 or 510-526-4645.

**DEBATE NEWS:** On Jan. 21, the El Cerrito debate team competed at the GGSA League tournament at Diablo Valley College. El Cerrito dominated Lincoln Douglas varsity debate, bringing home the only trophies awarded in the division. Amit Gressel was the only varsity competitor with an undefeated record. Sally Walstrom, Alison Fitch and Sharon Seegers each were 3-1 and received trophies. Representing El Cerrito in junior varsity were Lucy Cain, Alisha Manandhar, Tyler Parra, Brennan MacMaster, Neil Celis, Cassarah Chu and Skye Elvin. Lucy was a top JV competitor with a 4-0 record, and also received a trophy. On Jan. 13-14, the team participated in the Martin Luther King Jr. Invitational debate tournament at James Logan High School in Union City. Sally, Alison, Tyler, Lucy, Matthew Heslop and Daniel Hooper represented the team in Open Division.

**INFORMATION NIGHT:** Information Night for parents and students thinking of attending ECHS will be held Wednesday, Feb. 8 at 7 p.m. Come to the front gate, and you will be directed in. Refreshments will be served. The school is at 540 Ashbury Ave.

## Shakespeare Festival: ECHS students are invited to attend the Oregon Shakespeare Festival from March 2-5 (possible alternative date is March 9). The trip includes a three-night stay in a four-star hotel in downtown Ashland with breakfast included; four plays (only one is a Shakespeare play); backstage tours; acting workshops; and bus ride there and back. For more information, please call Rich Cohen at 510-525-0234 and ask for room 7B.

**YOSHIE'S EVENT:** An Evening at Yoshi's will be Monday, Feb. 6. There will be two shows: The El Cerrito High School jazz bands and Portola Middle School jazz ensemble will perform at 8 p.m.; the El Cerrito High School jazz bands at 10 p.m. Ticket price is \$10 per person, per show. Seating is first come, first served. Yoshi's is located at Jack London Square, 510 Embarcadero West, Oakland. Each show will run probably about 1 hour and 15 minutes. You can buy tickets in person or call 510-238-9200. For more information, call Shoko at 510-236-5736.

**SUMMER SCHOOL:** Summer school forms are now available in the main office (room 1) and Counselors Office (room 49). Students who need to make up credits or repeat a course for a better grade for college should attend. You only need to fill out the front page of the application. Your counselor will fill out the back page for the course or courses that you need. The emergency information must be completely filled out, and the form will not be accepted without a parent's signature. Summer school forms are due to counselors by Feb. 17.

**PAGETURNERS:** Join the Pageturners book club on Feb. 15 at 7 p.m. in Room 33 to discuss "Triangle: The Fire That Changed America" by David Von Drehle.

**CRAB FEED:** The Albany-El Cerrito Exchange Club will hold its annual all-you-can-eat crab feed at 6 p.m., Saturday, Jan. 28, at the Richmond Auditorium, 2533 Nevin Ave. The cost is \$35, and proceeds will benefit the El Cerrito High School athletic department. The event will include a raffle, no-host bar and prizes. Exchange Club members Joe DeVille, Don Frizzle, Howard Abelson and Cal Chun are helping to organize the event. For ticket information, call Chun at 510-232-2251.

— Craig Lazzarotti

School notes can be e-mailed to [journal@cctimes.com](mailto:journal@cctimes.com).

On the Avenue,  
the morning bright  
with possibilities ...  
the fog lifting, the shops  
just open ...  
the laughter of friends,  
waiting at the café ...  
this day, all your days,  
are your own.

There is still time.  
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# Calendar

Submissions to the Community Calendar must be received **Thursdays** one week prior to publication. Listings are on a space-available basis. Mail submissions to Pam Middings, 1516 Oak St., Alameda, CA 94501; e-mail them to pmiddings@cctimes.com or fax them to 510-748-1680. Call 510-748-1683 if you have questions.

## Coming Up

### Children/teens

■ **Berkeley Rhino Rugby** — Recruiting boys ages 14-18 for winter/spring season. Tuesdays and Thursdays, 5:30-7 p.m., practices starting now at San Pablo Park, Berkeley. No experience required. Rugby is a fast-paced game involving running, kicking, tackling. Details: 510-466-5113.

■ **East Bay Panthers** — Girls' basketball club is accepting registrations for its Spring 2006 season. Early registrants are eligible to attend free skills clinics. Girls who were 10-14 years old on Jan. 1 are eligible to participate on one of club's AAU-affiliated teams. Details/forms: eastbaypanthers.org or 415-298-7851.

■ **Kidpower Seminars** — Programs address personal safety, confidence, advocacy, self-protection skills. Jan. 27-29, in Berkeley, Weekend Family Workshop for Young People ages 6-14 — Jan. 28, 2-4 p.m., in Berkeley, Parent-Child Workshop for Children ages 4-8 — Feb. 6, 6:30-8:30 p.m., Parent/Caregiver Education Workshop — April 9, 12:30-5:30 p.m., Teenpower Introductory Full Force Workshop for Teens ages 13-17. Details/registration: kidpower.org, 831-426-4407, 510-881-2262 or safety@kidpower.org.

■ **Los Amiguitos de la Pena** — Children's programs at 10:30 a.m., La Pena Cultural Center, 3105 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. Jan. 28, Ashba sings songs of hope & happiness for children of all ages & backgrounds. — Feb. 4, Jerry Kennedy plays original folk songs. — Feb. 11, Fran Avni & Bonnie Lockhart play original & traditional songs. — Feb. 18, Hyperactive Talking Doves interactive extravaganza. — Feb. 25, Denique, the high tech clown. Tickets: \$3-\$4. Details: lapena.org.

■ **Albany Cooperative Preschool Open Enrollment** — Jan. 28, 9-11 a.m., 850 Masonic Ave., Albany. Prospective families, including returning families not currently enrolled, can sign up on a first-come, first-serve basis. Details: 510-527-6403 or albanypreschool.org.

■ **Lunar New Year** — Jan. 29, Habitat Children's Museum, 2065 Kittredge St., Berkeley. Dragon parade weaves through museum, interactive performances feature Chinese scarf dancing & musical instruments, calligraphy featured in Art Studio, a harmony table of Lunar New Year preserved fruits from Chinatown will be available for sampling. Free admission. Details: 510-647-1111 or habitat.org.

■ **Family Film Sunday Series** — Jan. 29, 11 a.m., Julia Morgan Theatre, 2640 College Ave., Berkeley. "Babe" tells fantasy story of a little pig with big dreams who teaches himself to be a shepherd. Farm animals speak with special effects in this live-action tale. Tickets: \$5 donation benefits Julia Morgan Center. Details: juliamorgan.org.

■ **Crowden School Open House** — Information night, Feb. 1, 7-8:30 p.m., 1475 Rose St., Berkeley. Middle school, grades 4-8, combines challenging curriculum with chamber music program for students of strings, piano, composition. Details: 510-559-6910 or crowden.org.

■ **Albany Berkeley Girls Softball League** — Registration for Spring Season 2006 open to girls in grades 1-9. Game season runs March 4-June 3. To register, e-mail registrar@abgsf.org or call 510-869-4277. Registration closes Feb. 1. Scholarships available. Details: abgsf.org.

■ **2006 Cougar Classic Golf Tournament** — Feb. 10, 12 p.m. shotgun start, Tilden Park Golf Course. Barbecue, awards, follow, with silent auction at 5:15 p.m. Entry fee: \$75 per player, \$35 for high school students. To enter, con-



THE XYLEM FOLKSTRA PROJECT

**KAILA FLEXER** and the Berkeley-based Crowden School present "The Xylem Folkstra Project," at 8 p.m. Feb. 12 at the Swedish American Hall, 2174 Market St., San Francisco, and 8 p.m. Feb. 17 at First Unitarian Church of Oakland, 685 14th St. The group will perform new Balkan-inspired works by Flexer as well as traditional Balkan music. The audience will be invited to participate in a Balkan dance class with Balkan dance instructor Lise Liepmann prior to each show, at 7 p.m. For tickets or more information visit kailaflexer.com or call 510-594-4404. Tickets are \$16 adults \$12 children 15 and under.

tact Albany High School Golf Coach Fred Brown by Feb. 1 at 510-604-2282. Proceeds benefit Albany High School Golf Team. Businesses that would like to be a sponsor or make a donation for Silent Auction should contact Coach Brown.

■ **Jazzy Thursdays** — Feb. 2, 9, 16, 23; 3-7 p.m., Habitat Children's Museum, 2065 Kittredge St., Berkeley. Enjoy live & recorded music reflecting contributions of African-American composers. Features jazz, rhythm & blues, reggae, more in recognition of Black History Month. Free admission. Details: 510-647-1111 or habitat.org.

■ **Albany-Berkeley Soccer Club** — Spring 2006 season registration for players ages 5-18. Online through Feb. 16 at sportability.com/abc. Walk-in at West Berkeley Senior Center, 1900 Sixth St., Berkeley. Feb. 4, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Walk-ins at Cornell Elementary School, 920 Talbot Ave., Albany. Feb. 11, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.; Feb. 13, 6:30-9 p.m.; Feb. 16, 6:30-9 p.m., abc2register@yahoo.com, or 510-528-4468.

■ **Pee Wee Basketball** — Begins Feb. 4, 10 a.m., 1255 Allston Way, Berkeley. Berkeley Youth Alternatives presents program for boys & girls ages 6-8 years old. Admission: \$25. Details: 510-845-9066, sports@byaonline.org.

■ **California Shakespeare Theater** — Classes for Youth (ages 4-18) at Cal Shakes Rehearsal Hall, 701 Heinz Ave., Berkeley. Feb. 6-March 27, "Stage Combat." Feb. 7-March 28, "Imagination Playground." Feb. 9-March 30, "Physical Comedy." Feb. 11-April 1, "Playshop." Feb. 18-April 8, "Teen Scene." April 3-7, "Spring Break Musical Theatre Audition Intensive." April 10-14, "Spring Break Playshop." Details: Erin 510-548-3422 x127, learn@calshakes.org, or calshakes.org.

■ **Albany Karate for Kids** — Feb. 11, Albany Community Center, 1249 Marin Ave., Albany. 9:30-10 a.m., watch nonaggressive karate class taught by a female instructor, followed by karate test. Free for spectators. Details: albanykarateforkids.com or 510-847-2400.

■ **"Junie B. Jones and a Little Monkey Business"** — Feb. 11, 11 a.m. & 1:30 p.m.; Feb. 17, 12 p.m.; Feb. 18, 11 a.m. & 1:30 p.m.; Feb. 25, 11 a.m. & 1:30 p.m.; Julia Morgan Center for the Arts, 2640 College Ave., Berkeley. Active Arts Theatre for Young Audiences performs family musical based on Barbara Park's book about a girl who mistakenly believes her new baby brother is actually a monkey. Tickets: \$13-\$18, call 925-798-1300. Details: juliamorgan.org.

■ **CAHSEE Prep Classes** — Saturdays (except Feb. 25) 9 a.m.-12 p.m., through March 18, El Cerrito High School, 540 Ashbury St., El Cerrito. Kaplan K12 Learning Services gives free prep classes for California High School Exit Exam. Class improves skills in English language arts and math, with small groups and personalized attention. Details: Alison 510-817-3854 or kaptest.com/k12/support/state\_assessment.html.

■ **"Broadway Babies"** — Winter season runs through March 16. Tuesdays 4-6:30 p.m., Saturdays 12-3 p.m.; Contra Costa Civic Theatre, 951 Pomona Ave., El Cerrito. Judy Rae Whiting accepts applications for "Live at CCCT" youth program for ages 7-15. This class will teach young people how to perform in "A Night in Bombay," an original musical based on Bollywood song and dance craze. Tuition: \$385. Details: 510-524-9132 or ccct.org.

### Community

■ **Blood Drives** — American Red Cross. Jan. 27, 12-6 p.m., UCB Unit 4, Hillside Assembly Room, 2700 Hearst Ave., Berkeley. — Jan. 30, 12-6 p.m., UC Berkeley Unit 3, 2400 Durant Ave., All-Purpose Room, Berkeley. — Jan. 31, 12:30-6:30 p.m., UC Berkeley Unit 1 Dorms, 2650 Durant Ave., Putnam Main Lounge. — Feb. 3, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., UC Berkeley Community, MLK Student Union, 5th Floor Tilden Room, Telegraph & Bancroft Avenues, Berkeley. — Feb. 6, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., UCB Graduate Theological Union, Pacific School of Religion, 1798 Scenic Ave., Berkeley. To schedule appointment, call Barbara 510-849-8229 or BeADonor.com. — Feb. 8, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., USDA, 800 Buchanan Street, Albany. To schedule appointment, call Steven: 510-559-6188. — Feb. 9-10, 12-6 p.m., UC Berkeley, East Pauley Ballroom, MLK Student Union, Telegraph & Bancroft Avenues, Berkeley. — Feb. 17, 1-7 p.m., Galateria Naia, 2106 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. Details: BeADonor.com (code: UCB) or 800-GIVE-LIFE.

■ **Hopalong Animal Rescue** — Pet adoption events. Jan. 28, 12-3 p.m., cats available at Your Basic Bird, 2940 College Ave., Berkeley. — Jan. 28, 12-3 p.m., dogs available at PetSmart, 1001 Eastshore Expressway, Albany. Details: 510-267-1915 or hopalong.org.

■ **OneWarmCoat** — Through Jan. 31, clean coats, sweaters, rainwear, socks, hats and mittens can be dropped off at Kensington Fire Station, 61 Arlington Ave. or Kensington Fire Station, 217 Arlington Ave. Hannah Kessel of Girl Scout Troop #2150 has organized a coat drive with

the OneWarmCoat agency. Items will go to St. Anthony's Foundation in San Francisco. Details: onewarmcoat.org.

■ **St. John's Prime Timers Senior Center** — Jan. 31, 11 a.m., "Let's Talk" with Helen. St. John's Presbyterian Church, 2727 College Ave., Berkeley. — Feb. 7, 12 p.m., birthdays celebrated. — Feb. 14, 10:30 a.m., Dr. Helen Christensen does blood pressure screenings; 11 a.m., Don Worth leads current events discussion. — Feb. 21, 11 a.m., Tina Otton shows slides of her 8-year sailing trip around the world. — Feb. 28, 11 a.m., Charles Fitch shows travel slides. Details: 510-845-6830.

■ **North Berkeley Senior Center** — Activities at 1901 Hearst Ave., Berkeley. Feb. 1, 1:15 p.m., birthday party features Gateswinners performing Dixieland Jazz refreshments. — Feb. 10, 1:15 p.m., Chinese New Year Celebration features great food, ethnic entertainment. Free. — Feb. 11, 1:15 p.m., Donehow Violin Studio offers a free youth classical & other music concert. — Feb. 14, Valentine Tea & Chocolate Tasting by reservation. Free, call 510-981-5191. — Feb. 15, 1 p.m., Books and Ideas group discusses "Napoleon," Alternative Lifelong Learning Book Club discusses "Snow Falling on Cedars." — Feb. 21, 10 a.m., Parkinson's Support Group hosts Dr. Rhoda Aging, speech therapist. She discusses "Coping with Speech Problems in Parkinson's disease." — Feb. 22, 1 p.m., California Access Program gives a phone equipment demonstration to seniors, disabled people. — Feb. 28, 1:15 p.m., black history celebration features music, art, poetry, refreshments. — Tuesdays at 1 p.m., Black History Film Series features: "Freedom Plow," "Rose Wood," "Malcolm X" (documentary). Details: 510-981-5190.

■ **Free Tax Return help** — AARP Tax-Aide tax counseling & preparation service can help with most of tax issues faced by middle- and low-income taxpayers, especially those age 60 and older. Details: 888-227-7669 Feb. 1-April 15, or visit aarp.org/taxaide.

■ **Pasta Fund-raiser** — Feb. 4, 5-6:30 p.m. & 7-8:30 p.m., Kensington Youth Hut, 59 Arlington Ave., Kensington. Features homemade sauces prepared by Jamal Jawad, who has a senior daughter, Jeryna, on the varsity team. Proceeds benefit El Cerrito High School Girls Soccer Team. Tickets: \$12 each, four for \$40. Details: 510-237-3847 or 510-528-4645.

■ **Friends of Five Creeks** — Feb. 4, 10 a.m.-12 p.m., Creekside Park, south end of Santa Clara Street, El Cerrito. Volunteers needed to help plant natives, remove invasives to restore habitat along new Cerrito Creek walkway. Wear shoes with good traction, clothes that can get dirty. Details: fivecreeks.org, fivecreeks@aol.com, 510-848-9358.

■ **"150 Years in the Sacramento - San Joaquin Delta: Where Do We Go from Here?"** — Feb. 6, 7 p.m., Albany Community Center, 1249 Marin Ave., Albany. Jeff Hart owns a native-plant nursery & leads ecological tours in the Delta, the once-wet wetlands area and source of drinking water now threatened by pesticides, diversions, invasives, and falling levees. Details: fivecreeks.org, fivecreeks@aol.com, 510-848-9358.

■ **Bay Area Relocalize** — Preparing for the End of Cheap Oil. Feb. 16, 7-9 p.m., Ecology Center, 2530 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley. Project is assessing our region's use of resources and developing a model for local communities to bring production of our food, energy & essential goods closer to home. feature a panel of presenters from project, Q&A. \$5-\$20 donation requested. Proceeds benefit Bay Area Relocalize project. Details: 510-548-2220 x233.

■ **Camejo & Kidder** — Feb. 24, 7 p.m., Berkeley Fellowship of Unitarian Universalists Hall, 1924 Cedar St., Berkeley. "How'd You Become Activists? What Now?" presented by Green Party gubernatorial candidate Peter Camejo & peace, labor & voting rights activist Jennifer Kidder. \$10 donation. Details: 510-528-5403.

■ **Berkeley City Club Tours** — Feb. 26, 1:15 p.m., 2:15 p.m., 3:15 p.m.; Berkeley City Club, 2315 Durant Ave.,

Berkeley. Free docent-led tours of "little castle" designed by Julia Morgan: a unique blend of Romanesque, Gothic & Moorish architecture highlighted by a beautiful tiled swimming pool. Free. Donations welcome. Details: 510-848-7800 or 510-883-9710.

■ **Single and Seeking (Again)** — Through March 16, 7 p.m. Thursdays, Berkeley Richmond Jewish Community Center, 1414 Walnut St., Berkeley. Nonsense, interactive singles group for people recovering from a divorce or breakup is all about making dating fun, safe & successful. Please contact one week in advance if you need childcare. Cost: \$12/session, \$40 for 4 sessions. Details/registration: 510-848-0237 x132 or brjcc.org.

■ **World Affairs/Politics Groups** — Meet through March 27, Mondays 10:15-11:45 a.m., Albany Senior Center, 846 Masonic Ave., Albany. For seniors 60+ years. Refreshments provided. Fee: \$2.50 per session.

### Learning

■ **Vista Community College** — Workshops 8:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m., Room 303, 2020 Milvia St., Berkeley. Jan. 28, "Family Travel." Feb. 4, "Writing Effective Travel Brochures." Feb. 11, "Inbound Travel Industry." — Feb. 4, Allston Way Annex, 2075 Allston Way, Room 110, Berkeley. "Careers in International Trade" workshop. — Feb. 4, 8:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m., 8:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m., Room 303, 2020 Milvia St., Details: 510-981-2913, 510-981-2800 or peralta.edu.

■ **California Chinchilla Rescue** — Jan. 28, 1-5 p.m., RabbitEARS Adoption Center, 303 Arlington Ave., Kensington. Learn about habitat, grooming, special needs, personalities of chinchillas as pets. Details: 510-525-6155.

■ **Kurukula** — Self-defense course for women ages 18 & up. Jan. 28, 10:45 a.m.-12:15 p.m.; Feb. 16, 7-8:30 p.m.; Albany Community Center, 1249 Marin Ave. Female martial arts instructor teaches how to effectively strike an attacker & everyday personal safety strategies. Registration: 510-524-9283 or kurukula.com.

■ **Disaster Preparedness for Special Needs Populations** — course, Tuesdays Jan. 31-March 8, 10:30 a.m.-12 p.m., 1918 University Ave., 4th floor, Berkeley. UC Berkeley Center for Infectious Disease Preparedness presents free course presented by Ana-Marie Jones, Executive Director of Collaborating Agencies Responding to Disasters. Details: 510-643-4930.

■ **East Bay Atheists** — Meeting, Feb. 4, 2-5 p.m., Berkeley's Main Library, 2090 Kittredge St., 3rd floor Meeting Room, Berkeley. Glenn Branch of National Center for Science Education speaks on "Who's Winning the Evolution Wars?"

■ **California Shakespeare Theater** — Classes at Cal Shakes Rehearsal Hall, 701 Heinz Ave., Berkeley. Feb. 6-March 27, "Intermediate/Advanced Scene Study." Feb. 8-March 29, "Stage Combat." Feb. 9-March 30, "Improv for Everyone." Feb. 12-April 2, "Shakespeare Text & Culture: the 2006 Season." Feb. 14-April 4, "Introduction to Acting." Details: Erin 510-548-3422 x127, learn@calshakes.org, or calshakes.org.

■ **Introduction to Conscious Parenting** — Feb. 7, 7:30 p.m., Epic Arts Center, 1923 Ashby Ave., Berkeley. If you've wished to learn new ways of parenting, or struggled with things not going how you expected, come & find relief, community, new tools. Donations appreciated. Details: Shelly 415-312-1830 or JillNagle@aol.com.

### Literary events

■ **Poetry Flash** — Poetry readings, 7:30 p.m., Cody's Books, 2454 Telegraph Ave., Berkeley. \$2. Jan. 29, Amber Flora Thomas, Rose Black, Joseph Zaccardi. — Feb. 5, Geraldine Kim, Tessa Rumsey. — Feb. 12, Eileen R.

Tabios, Catherine Daly. — Feb. 12, Laynie Brown, Brian Teare, Sarah Arvio, W.S. Di Piero. Call 845-7852 or poetryflash.org.

■ **Poetry Express** — Mondays, 7:30 p.m., Berkeley, Weekly open mic hosted by Mark Stas. Jan. 30: Zara Raab & HD. Feb. 27: CR Jacobs. Feb. 13: Misha. Feb. 20: Paradise. Feb. 27: "Hope." March 6: Nance. March 13: Mary Milton. March 20: Odegard. March 27: "The Poems About Women" & "The Poems About Women." Details: email poetryexpress@yahoo.com.

■ **Rhythm and Muse** — Tuesdays, Berkeley Art Center, 1275 University Ave. and two mics available. Details appreciated. Upcoming: Edwin Drummond, Feb. 28, 7:30 p.m., with Jekwadi, Mark G. Muteado. March 25: Fela. Details: 510-644-6893 or 510-248-1000.

■ **Poets' Dinner Contest** — Jan. 31, Thematics: Tomorrow's Endings, Humors, Love, Spaces and Places. Poet's Choice. Maximum 400 English, maximum entries per category. Type on 12"x11" paper, one side only. Category in upper right-hand corner. Mail three copies of author's name to Joe Farrow, Point Court, Benicia, CA 94610. Claim prizes, authors must be April 8 awards ceremony at 1919 Fourth St., Berkeley. \$25, mail check payable to winner to Richard Angilly, 1515 Richmond, CA 94805.

■ **Bancroft Centennial Symposium** — Feb. 10-11, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Museum, 2626 Bancroft Way. UC Berkeley's Bancroft Library celebrates its 100 years of collecting historic documents. Scholar discuss topics such as and California history, biotechnology, environmental movement. Speakers include Kevin St. McClure, Kathleen Cleaver p.m., exhibit opening reception. Exhibit runs Feb. 11-Dec. 1. Details: 510-643-0397 or bancroft.berkeley.edu/everett.

■ **Anna's Jazz Island** — Series, Feb. 19, 3-5 p.m., 2nd Way, Berkeley. Music/jazz hosts event, with multiple speakers reading their work. Open to all. \$3 cover. Upcoming: April 23. Details: 510-228-6100 or 841-5299.

### Music

■ **53rd annual Noon Concert** — UC Berkeley's Hertz Hall. Shostakovich's "Cello Sonata no. 1" performed by Gabriel Jim Prel, piano. — Feb. 1, by Villa-Lobos & Ravel. Feb. 1, Leighton Fog, Susan Roth, Michael Seth Orland, Stacy Andy Luchansky. — Feb. 1, music by Beethoven, Dostoyevsky performed by Catharine Jarod Redmond. Free. Details: music.berkeley.edu/calendar.

■ **An Evening with the Yodels** — Jan. 27, 7 p.m., St. Alban's Church Parish Hall, 1501 16th Ave., Albany. MusicSource. Mozart's "Bastien und Bastien" soprano Rita Lilly, bass tenor Jonathan Smucker & discovered symphony. Mozart was nine. Refreshments, re-creation of Dr. Art Pleasure Garden. A benefit. Sources, celebrating 250th of Mozart's birth. Cost: \$75. Details: 510-528-1685.

■ **Berkeley Symphony Orchestra Concert** — Jan. 28, 8 p.m., Hall, UC Berkeley. Features Bach, Carter, Varèse. Tickets: \$10-\$54; 510-841-2600. leysymphony.org.

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# ance

FROM PAGE A1

sounds pretty tame. Reality is often require backstabbing pretty conflicts to succeed. ing a lunch break, most of the ten at least appeared to get by, when not being downright friendly with each other. this going to work? Salimpour, her husband and singer Andre Khoury and other confidence. The coming narrative will arise out of body-image issues many of women bring to the workshop conflict between who they versus the latest size 2 model the cover of Cosmopolitan. Everybody's conflict is with own body," said Cho, who collaborating on other projects Salimpour, and will be a fea-

# ayashi

FROM PAGE A1

the Hayashis have worked to ease the public about SME in native Japan, and now they working to do the same here, ing residents to what is billed the first "pokkapoka" concert in United States, taking place at View Elementary School in ay, where Kiyo is a fifth-grader. iroaki is a visiting professor economics from Osaka, Japan, is at UC Berkeley for a year. Family is living in Albany her stay.

okkapoka is a Japanese meaning warm or kind, and Saturday's concert will onstrate the warmth the feel for their son, and they want to have as many dances with him as they can. Japan they didn't under- about this illness, and some room to isolate their chil- in a room so they didn't seizures," said Young Ha, a d of the Hayashis. days of dealing with the con- in the United States are lit-

# arin

FROM PAGE A1

the judgment did not affect Al- because he did not challenge city's declaration in time. Chamberlin plans to appeal in an to have the judgment apply any as well. Cowan said it's unclear the judge has ordered Berke- do to fix the situation. Chamberlin filed his suit last week. Chamberlin had 30 days challenge the cities' environ- mental statements on the project. any filed its notice with the y in November 2004, and

# achers

FROM PAGE A1

ove the deal becomes final, school board must approve contract. The five-member is expected to call a spe- meeting next week. As part requirement, the county ment of schools must turn off on the deal and ure that the district can the financial obligations laid the agreement. prior agreement expired 2005. The proposed deal cover July 1, 2005, to June 2008, though both sides may bargaining each year to lute salary increases. achers would receive a pay ase of 3 percent this year ef- e Jan. 1, according to a draft contract. The two sides also agreed to es in eligibility for lifetime ts, which have created

## DANCE STUDIO

The Suhaila Salimpour School of Dance is located at 10082 San Pablo Ave. at Central. For more information, call 510-527-2400 or go online at [www.suhaila.com](http://www.suhaila.com).

tured guest dancer during a Salimpour performance at Herbst Theater in San Francisco on March 4. "That's the biggest conflict, the biggest war we all fight." Ultimately, Machado intends to shop around the pilot to cable networks in hopes of turning it into a series about Salimpour's life and studio.

That's essentially the process Cho used for getting her concert films distributed. One of them — "I'm the One that I Want," released in 2000 — detailed the eating disorder she developed as a result of demands of her show's

producers, who wanted her to lose weight for the cameras.

Her other films include the 2002 concert film "Notorious C.H.O." and her first narrative film, "Bam Bam and Celeste," which premiered last year at the Toronto Film Festival.

"We don't wait for permission from anybody to do a project or film," Machado said. "Every project has sold and done well."

Last spring, a national magazine declared that women and some men were tripping over themselves to belly dance at studios around the country. While the Middle-Eastern dance may have evolved from female fertility rituals, it's now attracting people who simply like the movements and want a good aerobic workout.

But Salimpour is more than just a dance instructor, Khoury said. She's also an Oprah-like figure who helps women improve their lives through belly dancing.

"It helps them become comfortable with their bodies," he said. "They do it themselves. (Salimpour) is the facilitator."

Yes, there's perhaps never been a better time for a show about the belly dance craze with a strong human interest element. And never underestimate the appeal of two dozen or so scantily clad women gyrating around a dance studio.

The students included Maria Mazzaferro, a dance instructor from Boulder, Colo., who has worked belly dancing into her classes and who called Salimpour a "dance instructor's instructor."

"I came here for the challenge," said Mazzaferro, who like Salimpour, also goes by her first name professionally. Maria didn't realize cameras would be there as well.

With a laugh, she added: "I didn't know I would have to put on makeup."



**KIYO HAYASHI**, right, rides the steam train at Tilden Regional Park with his brother, Masaki, and his service dog. Kiyo suffers from severe myoclonic epilepsy, a rare disorder that causes lengthy seizures.

tle better. According to the Web site [emedicine.com](http://emedicine.com), "Generally, the outlook is poor" for patients with myoclonic epilepsy. "Most children are markedly dependent on care or institutionalized."

Ha said Kiyo's mother, Yuko, has written books about the disorder and has appeared widely on Japanese television to discuss her efforts.

"She is trying to find a way to bring them out and raise awareness of society and say it's OK for children to come out and be as normal as possible," Ha said.

Saturday's concert will include writings by Yuko Hayashi, a lantern slide story show and music performed on traditional Japanese instruments by ensembles from Japan and Berkeley.

Also performing will be Ocean View music instructor Sue Crum and the Technicians, a youth funk dance group that has become a tradition at the school.

Kensuke Sumii will read "Kiyo is a Selfish King," a touching piece by Yuko Hayashi that expresses her older son's point of view about the family's struggle to deal with Kiyo's condition. The title refers to the fact that older brother Masaki feels neglected because Kiyo requires so much attention. Another piece is titled "Kyonori's Head Gear," about the specialized helmet Kiyo has to wear in public.

Admission to the program, which is sponsored by the Ocean View PTA and a number of local businesses, is free, but donations will be accepted for the Kiyo Fund, which is dedicated to SME research.

As it says in the concert brochure, "We sincerely hope that you will help in this research program, and we offer our son's smile for your generosity."

Reach Chris Treadway at 510-262-2784 or [ctreadway@cc-times.com](mailto:ctreadway@cc-times.com).

## Siri

FROM PAGE A1

In addition, Siri was a big backer of the city's effort to establish senior housing, Abelson said. That effort resulted in the Eskaton Hazel Shirley Manor on San Pablo Avenue.

But Siri was also concerned about day-to-day operations. In 1988, she backed a lighting and landscaping assessment that continues to pay for city maintenance.

Former El Cerrito mayor Norman La Force said it wasn't a popular decision.

"That took a lot of courage," said La Force, adding that the city budget was reeling from the impact of Prop. 13 at the time. "Because there were people who said 'Why are we doing this?'"

Siri lost her re-election bid in 1984 but ran successfully for a second term in 1987. During her tenure on the council, which lasted until 1991, she served as mayor twice.

Prior to her election to the council, Siri served on the board of directors of the Stege Sanitary District, which provides sewer service to El Cerrito, Kensington and Richmond Annex residents.

Along with Don West and Art Schroeder, Siri helped dismantle a "good old boys" club on the board that had perpetuated costly retirement and medical benefits for its members, said Miller, a member of the Stege board.

Siri's impact was felt beyond the El Cerrito borders. Regionally, Siri is best known for her environmental work and her 14-year tenure on the board of the East Bay Regional Parks District.

"She was truly a renaissance woman as far as an activist is concerned," Miller said. "She didn't specialize in parks or she didn't specialize in Richmond or Point Richmond. She didn't specialize in El Cerrito politics, or local politics. She was active in anything she thought she could help or that needed fixing."

Pat O'Brien, the park district general manager, said Siri was an early supporter of the Save the Bay movement, which sought public access to the shoreline, and also helped secure the 2,000 acres of land in the Eastshore State Park.

"When she was younger, she knew that the shoreline of the East Bay was mainly garbage dumps or industrial areas," O'Brien said. "There was very little public access at all. She was determined to turn that around, which at that time was considered unbelievable."

Born March 11, 1920, in

## EPITAPH

Jean B. Siri

■ **BORN:** March 11, 1920, in Lakota, N.D.

■ **DIED:** Jan. 20, 2006, in San Pablo

■ **SURVIVORS:** Daughters Lynn Kimsey of Davis and Ann Siri of Philo; and two grandchildren.

■ **ACCOMPLISHMENTS:** Member of the El Cerrito City Council from 1980 to 1984 and from 1987 until 1991. Served as mayor twice. A member of the Stege Sanitary District Board from 1975 to 1979; and a member of the East Bay Regional Park District Board from 1992 to 2006. As a member of the City Council, Siri supported redevelopment; helped establish senior housing in El Cerrito, and established the 1988 lighting and landscaping assessment.

■ **SERVICES:** The East Bay Regional Park District will host a public memorial at 11 a.m., Friday, Feb. 10, at the Miller Knox Regional Shoreline in Point Richmond.

■ **MEMORIAL GIFTS:** Donations can be made in Jean Siri's name to Fresh Start, 1924 Trinity Ave., Walnut Creek, 94596 or the Regional Parks Foundation, P.O. Box 21074, Crestmont Station, Oakland, 94620.

Lakota, N.D., Siri graduated from Jamestown College with a degree in biology in 1942. She spent two years in the Navy, and on Dec. 3, 1947, married William Siri, a nuclear physicist who became a famed mountaineer and president of the Sierra Club.

The couple raised two daughters in El Cerrito. Lynn Kimsey recalled being in high school when her mother got involved in local politics 40 years ago.

"The take-home message from her always was if you see something wrong, fix it yourself, don't wait for someone else to do it because they probably won't," said Kimsey, a professor of entomology at UC Davis. "She lived her life that way."

That philosophy led to Siri's involvement in local aging and homeless issues as a member of the Gray Panthers of West County, said local homeless advocate Susan Prather.

Prather, who runs the homeless referral program Fresh Start in Walnut Creek, said Siri was a mentor and a mother figure.

"Any future trouble I make will be in honor of Jean," Prather said, "and it will be good."

Reach Alan Lopez at 510-243-3578 or e-mail [alopez1@ccimes.com](mailto:alopez1@ccimes.com). Staff writer Mike Taugher contributed to this report.

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## Earning how to convince a stubborn seller

any times, good things to those who wait

BY MAN NEWS

playing field has improved for buyers. But, many sellers have woken up to the new reality, which means that buyers may run against sellers whose dreams are out of sync with the market. If you're crazy about their house, what can you do to convince the sellers that you're the right buyer without paying an over-inflated price?

First, realize that price-of-ownership is firmly ingrained in some sellers, particularly if they've owned a property for their home for many years. Also keep in mind that many sellers may have unrealistic expectations. They may have friends who have received multiple offers and sold their home in only six months, but that was then and now is

not. It takes time for some sellers to meet their objectives. For example, a seller in the Oakland Hills, who listed his home for sale 18 months ago. He received multiple offers soon after listing, but the offers came in at a price that was much lower than the asking price. The seller coun-

ter the buyers walked away. A month or so later, one

of the buyers surfaced and started a verbal negotiation through his agent and the seller's agent. Finally, a formal offer was made for less than the asking price. The seller accepted.

**HOUSE HUNTING TIP:** Sometimes, the best approach to a seller who's wedded to an unrealistic price is the play the waiting game. You could lose the listing to another buyer who's willing to pay more. But, if you're only able or willing to pay a price that's less than the seller's asking price, what have you got to lose?

Ask your agent to let the seller's agent know that you're seriously interested in the property, just not at the list price. Make sure that you're the first to know if there's a price reduction.

But don't stop looking at other new listings that come on the market. As much as you might love an over-priced listing, some of these properties aren't for sale at market value. Sellers who have no urgency to move do have the option of taking their properties off the market if they don't get their price.

It's always a good idea to find out as much as you can about the seller's situation and his motivation to sell. If the seller has been transferred, there's a good chance that the property will be sold even



**DIAN HYMER**  
House Hunting

Try not to get caught up in a protracted negotiation with a seller who's only willing to sell if he can realize a stratospheric price.

though the initial asking price might be too high.

Try not to get caught up in a protracted negotiation with a seller who's only willing to sell if he can realize a stratospheric price. This can take up a lot of time and energy for nothing.

On the other hand, don't expect a split-second change of heart even if the seller is motivated. Recently, a San Francisco listing sold after eight rounds of counteroffers. Anticipate more negotiation in the new market than was the case in recent years. With this in mind, it pays to find an agent with good communication and negotiation skills.

See HYMER, Page B2

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**Listing agents:** Ron Eggherman and Todd Hodson, Marvin Gardens Real Estate, 510-524-0800.

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We gathered bids from a number of tradesmen and made a budget. Anne and Harold agreed to write checks. They did not ask what we planned to do, didn't seem to want to know what we were going to change, although Harold did say a new mailbox would be a good idea.

Inspections had confirmed what was already apparent, that the house was in quite good shape. In the 20 years that Anne and Harold had enjoyed living there, they had attended to things well.

About the only thing the general inspector recommended was to upgrade the electrical system to circuit breakers. So Anet and I, on behalf of our good sellers, hired an electrician to do that work. But almost everything else that was done over the next eight weeks was only surface deep.

Anet and I so enjoyed being in and working on that house. It had been built in 1951, in a style of that time, it is more boxy and unornamented than houses we have in the past taken to heart or bought for ourselves to live in. But as we renewed the surfaces and spent hours there, we came to appreciate its beauty. We even talked about living in it ourselves because this house works so well.

Practically becomes, I suppose, more appealing the older we get. The heating and roofing and plumbing all worked. The floors were level

and the walls were wide and ideal for hanging artwork. The bedrooms are clustered together with two baths and this area is separated from the living areas, yet the distance is easily traversed with only a few stairs between.

The garden had been beautifully planted with a variety of shrubs, trees and flowers and could be entered immediately outside the breakfast area of the kitchen and also from one of the bedrooms. There were lots and lots of closets (three in the entry hall alone, for vacuum cleaner, coats and other items

changed very little from the original. All rooms were painted (soft greens, two shades of cream, one room in a color called clay). All hardwood floors were refinished and a new, light blond bamboo floor was installed in the kitchen.

We added sleek chrome and glass light fixtures in some rooms and we changed out all door knobs to shiny brass. Old paint splatters were scrubbed from all hardware — coat hooks and cabinet pulls — if not being replaced with new. A round mirror set in an extra wide wood frame for the guest bath and



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room to the garden was replaced. Crisp paper lining was laid in most drawers. Of course we also added a shiny new mailbox.

I think it's the little details that make the difference. Even when you don't notice them, you do. The house looked wonderful.

Anne and Harold had not asked how things were going, nor had they mentioned going back to the house themselves. But the day before we were holding the house open for the first time, their daughter and a granddaughter came to town. They wanted to look at the house and Anne and Harold wanted to go too.

We did not know how they would feel about the changes. They'd spent a fair amount of money and we hoped that they would approve.

And they certainly did. We got a phone message from their daughter using words like awestruck and amazed. And then we received an e-mail from Anne. They couldn't get over the transformation. They liked everything — the colors, the light fixtures, the shades and filmy curtains, and the sparkling clean windows.

Floors, rugs and the new brass kick plate on the front door. Anne described the house as being classy without being snooty. That was nice. And then she inquired whether the team who put together their old house would do it again at their new place.

Pat Talbert and Anet Tarpoft are residential real estate agents who can be reached at 653-2050 and at [www.tarpoftandtalbert.com](http://www.tarpoftandtalbert.com).

We got a phone message from their daughter using words like awestruck and amazed. And then we received an e-mail from Anne. They couldn't get over the transformation. They liked everything — the colors, the light fixtures, the shades and filmy curtains, and the sparkling clean windows.

— I was envious) plus a large unfinished basement for storage.

But the best feature of all, the one I wanted for my own more than any other, is the double garage with an inside entrance and two — not just one — automatic door openers, one for each of the two doors. Drive in, unload your groceries, walk up nine stairs to the entry hall and kitchen. Heaven.

We were at the house frequently meeting workmen, watching progress, holding up drapes and curtains against the windows to see how they'd look. Early on we had decided against changing the Formica counters in the kitchen and baths because, although they were dated, we liked that they were dated. We didn't think that granite or Corian-type surfaces would look right (there is still, for example, an original scalloped trim piece over the kitchen sink) and if the counters went away, so would the chrome trim around the edges of the counters. The longer we looked at that chrome, the more we liked and wanted it in this house.

For all of these reasons, we

new medicine cabinets for the full baths. Classy look drapes and sheer curtains on some windows, and the stager chose roman shades for others.

Anet and I cleaned up after each work crew. Cardboard boxes and packing material, paint over-spray, muddy footprints, sawdust. The only truly tidy workers were the floor refinishers. Probably we went a little crazy, cleaning the garage door springs, removing and polishing the trim on light fixtures, washing the fireplace hearth.

The gardeners continued their maintenance regime and added more plants in bloom. The stager moved in furniture, paintings, lamps and rugs. She lined a window sill with a dozen identical containers filled with richest bush Dutch irises. Tall sprays of pink coral quince stopped us dead in our tracks, they were so beautiful.

We cleaned and cleaned every inch and we also hired cleaners and window washers. All plates for lights and plugs were changed to new, most in brass or chrome. The screen door leading from the bed-

## Finding faulty smoke alarm a challenge

■ Like finding the cricket in the basement

BY ALAN J. HEAVENS  
PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER

*Q: I live in a two-story townhouse, and I have had trouble with the four smoke alarms on the second floor. One of them will go off at night for no reason. Just a couple of beeps.*

*The batteries are new. I have read online that they can sometimes be overly sensitive to heat, dust and other things. Is there a less-sensitive brand to buy? Is there any way to figure out which one is the culprit?*

*A: It's like trying to find the cricket in the basement. It's true that some detectors can be overly sensitive to heat, although I've never heard anything about dust. Or one of the batteries could be faulty, new but on the verge of being old.*

*If the beeping were occurring when someone was taking a shower and the alarm was near the bathroom, I'd say, "ahh!" but the middle of the night? Since you have four alarms, the only way I can see to find the culprit is trial and error. Remove the batteries from three each night, and leave one armed.*

*Q: I would like to remove wallpaper that was put on about 15 years ago in one of my bedrooms. Is there an easy and safe way to remove it? What should I buy? Will there be any strong fumes from what I would be using?*

*A: Vinegar in warm water still works best. And it would be a good thing if the person who put the wallpaper on in the first place sized the wall beforehand — a process that creates a barrier between the wall material and back of the wallpaper, so that only the paper (and not the wall) comes off when you remove the wallpaper.*

If there seems to be no siz-

ing and the paper was laid drywall, be very careful not to soak the drywall. Use a blade to cut the wallpaper, then the vinegar solution behind the paper and dissolve the bond between the adhesive and the wall, but take care the water doesn't dissolve paper on the drywall.

If the wall is plaster and pull bits of plaster down, can repair it, although the is tedious. Pray the wall sized first.

*Q: I'm a volunteer program manager at a Philadelphia church. I have been told that I need to add a chemical solution to our boiler to keep the level where it should be, so sludge buildup is minimized. Any thoughts?*

*A: Natural water is usually between 6.5 and 7.5 pH. A common recommendation is to maintain boiler water at 8.5 pH. Water is corrosive. Alkalinity is more prone to scaling.*

*When the boiler-water drops below about 8.5, a corrosive situation called "acid attack" can occur. The presence of iron oxide deposits on boiler surfaces can encourage a kind of corrosion, "Caustic attack" on boilers is caused by high pH — 12.9 and higher, is usually caused by phosphorus treatment. You'll have to find proper treatment to keep pH in the proper range, between 7 and 10.*

*A lot of chemical companies make the boiler-water treatment you need to achieve the proper pH and to remove scale or contaminants in the system. Check out all the products available and be very careful.*

*Have questions for Alan Heavens? E-mail him at [ah@phillynews.com](mailto:ah@phillynews.com) or write him at The Inquirer, Box 8, Philadelphia 19101*

## Building a bond ladder: Work with this tool to diversify your portfolio

When putting together an investment portfolio, the goal is to assemble a mix of various assets that will work together to generate the best possible return. Stocks and bonds are two of the basic building blocks with which you are probably most familiar. However, beyond simply buying a stock or holding a bond, there are many investment strategies that can help you enhance your portfolio's performance. If you are a buy-and-hold, fixed-income investor, constructing laddered maturities portfolios is one method that may provide you with some advantages.

Bond ladder refers to the practice of purchasing different bonds with various maturities so

that their due dates are spread out over a number of years. In addition, as each set matures, the proceeds are reinvested in new bonds with a maturity date farther out than the longest bond you currently hold. In this way, the ladder is continuously extended.

When building a ladder portfolio, the first thing to decide is how tall the ladder will be — in other words, how long will the longest maturity be? Typically investors can expect to receive the highest yields from bonds with longer maturities. But you need to decide on an end point for your top rung by determining how long you want your money tied up.

Another important consideration would be the maturity frequency. You could have bonds coming due every six months, or every five years, depending on how you set up your portfolio. This maturity frequency represents the space between the rungs of the ladder, and it is often calculated as a function of the longest maturity and the amount to be invested. For example, if you decide that 15 years will be the longest maturity in your portfolio, and you have \$100,000 to invest, you could build a ladder with 10 rungs of \$10,000 each, spaced 1.5 years apart.

Some bonds contain call provisions that let the issuer redeem the bond prior to its stated maturity date. While these may offer higher yields than comparable non-callable bonds, you will want to use these sparingly so as not to risk disrupting the maturity schedule of your portfolio.

In structuring laddered portfolio,

Bond ladder refers to the practice of purchasing different bonds with various maturities so that their due dates are spread out over a number of years. As each set matures, the proceeds are reinvested in new bonds with a maturity date farther out than the longest bond you currently hold.

lors, investors need to ensure the bonds they choose meet their specific credit-quality needs. If you are looking for the strongest credit quality available, municipal or corporate bonds, Treasury securities or debt of government-sponsored enterprises should be your top considerations.

In addition to the factors already mentioned, bonds for a ladder portfolio should be selected based on their after-tax returns as well. For those in higher income tax brackets, municipal bonds provide exemption from federal and, where applicable, state income taxes, making them a good choice for taxable accounts. If your ladder portfolio is part of a qualified plan, you should consider investing in taxable bonds to capitalize on the tax advantages of these types of plans.

Because the market is constantly moving up and down, many investors just can not resist the temptation to try to "time the market" when purchasing fixed-income securities. They hold off purchasing bonds in hopes that higher yields — and therefore

lower prices — will become available in the near future. What they fail to remember is that bond yields are just as likely to decrease as they are to increase at any given time.

By creating a laddered maturities portfolio, investors can benefit from a strategy where whenever a bond in the portfolio matures, the proceeds are automatically used to purchase new bonds. Because it is such a simple strategy, investors remain fully invested at all times and do not need to worry about trying to time the market.

Depending on your current income needs, a bond ladder strategy can be customized to match your individual circumstances. It could prove to be an important element in building your overall investment portfolio.

Leila Gough is an Associate Vice President with A. G. Edwards in Oakland. She can be reached at 510-452-8060.

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**LEILA GOUGH**  
Money Matters

Don't miss this week's Open House Guide starting on B

### New Listing - 545 Colusa Avenue



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#### BEAUTIFUL EL CERRITO COURTYARD HOME

This fabulous home has a beautifully landscaped courtyard entrance offering privacy and a versatile floor plan. Main floor has three bedrooms and two full baths, living room, fireplace and kitchen with skylight and double Dutch doors. Lower level has a family room and studio/work room.

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Visit a photo tour at [www.berkhills.com](http://www.berkhills.com)



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# Man News made some 2005 predictions

Here's how they turned out

**Prediction 1:** Homestore will be a lead generation program and quickly become one of the leaders in the space.  
**Reality:** Homestore launched an online lead-generation product for realtors called Top Marketer, offering consumers free home sales reports in exchange for contact information. Realtors sign up to receive a call on their phones when consumers sign online.  
**Prediction 2:** A major mortgage company will purchase a big real

estate company, setting off a legal battle with the real estate industry.  
**Reality:** We haven't heard of any major mortgage lenders buying a big real estate brokerage, but many lenders this year continued to create affiliated partnerships with real estate companies, aiming to offer consumers a one-stop shop for real estate and mortgage services.  
**Prediction 3:** A movement to privatize the MLS will take off like wildfire as brokers move to control their listing inventory.  
**Reality:** There hasn't been a widespread movement to privatize the MLS.  
**Prediction 4:** The Justice De-

partment will come down hard on the real estate industry for antitrust.  
**Reality:** The DOJ launched a multilevel attack on alleged antitrust practices in the industry this year, including a lawsuit against the National Association of Realtors over its online property listings policy, a lawsuit against the Kentucky Real Estate Commission over its anti-rebate rules (which have since been lifted), and several letters of opposition to states considering implementing minimum-service laws for real estate.  
**Prediction 5:** There will be a huge security breach at a large regional MLS, causing the National

Association of Realtors to step in and create a tight data security policy that all MLSs must follow and police closely.  
**Reality:** No huge security breaches reported this year, but more MLSs and Realtor associations started getting serious about data security and some have implemented token systems to curb password abuses.  
**Prediction 6:** Google will beta test a special real estate search engine that crawls the Web for available home listings. The search feature will be local in nature, but will enable Web surfers to set their own search parameters and look in multiple ZIP codes.  
**Reality:** Google hasn't launched a "real estate search engine," but it did launch a new service in test mode called Google Base that enables people to quickly and easily create a free post that will appear online and can be located by searching on specific terms, such as "real estate for sale."

**Prediction 7:** NAR will end the year with fewer members than it had on Jan. 1. As the housing market eases and other sectors of the economy pick up pace, thousands of real estate newbies will exit the industry to try on other hats.  
**Reality:** NAR's membership swelled to an unprecedented 1.2 million members at year-end. However, the housing market did start to show signs of major cooling in some markets in the second half of the year.  
**Prediction 8:** Interest rates will fall as President Bush takes action on the trade deficit.  
**Reality:** Interest rates increased this year, though they still hover at historic lows. The U.S. trade deficit has increased more in the first nine months this year than it did in 2004, reaching a record \$66 billion in September.

**Prediction 9:** Bush will ease the pain of his tax-reform proposals, which will eliminate the deduction for property taxes, by increasing the capital gains caps on housing sales.  
**Reality:** Just the opposite has happened this year. The federal tax reform panel has made recommendations that would drastically reduce the mortgage-interest deduction, causing major protest among real estate industry groups including the National Association of Realtors and the National Association of Home Builders.

# Glider rocker is both smooth and soothing



BY DON AND DAVE RUNYAN

Anyone with a new baby in the family — from new parents to great-grandparents — will enjoy the soothing to-and-fro motion of this glider rocker project. In fact, you don't even need a new baby to appreciate the relaxing qualities of this cozy chair.

Unlike an ordinary rocking chair, a glider rocker has its seat suspended in its own frame, so the unit "glides" back and forth instead of rocking. As a result, the chair moves more smoothly than a traditional rocker while taking up less space.

This do-it-yourself version features an innovative mechanism to produce its gliding motion, using tee-nuts, bolts and washers instead of ball bearings. The design not only makes the project easier to build, but eliminates hard-to-find (and expensive) parts. In order to simplify construction even more, all of the chair's curved cuts are traced from full-size patterns.

Materials for the glider rocker include oak plywood, dowels and

spindles, tee-nuts, bolts and washers, screws, nails, wood buttons, stain and finish. Chair pads come in many colors and styles and are available at many furniture and department stores. The completed chair measures 41 inches tall by 24 inches wide by 25 inches deep.

The Glider Rocker plan, No. 853, is \$9.95 and includes step-by-step instructions with photos, full-size, traceable patterns, construction diagrams, a shopping list and cutting schedule and a toll-free help line for project questions.

A package of rocking chair plans, No. C162, is \$24.95 and includes this project plus a traditional rocking chair, a porch rocker and an outdoor rocker. A catalog picturing hundreds of do-it-yourself projects is \$2. Please include \$3 for postage and handling (except catalog-only orders) and allow about two weeks for delivery.

To order by mail, clip this article and send it with a check or money order to U-Build Features, c/o Hills Newspapers, P.O. Box 2383, Van Nuys, CA 91409.

# taking a look around the East Bay real estate community

News and information for and the area real estate community and affiliated industries

## THE PUBLIC

The public is always welcome at various meetings sponsored by the Alameda Association of Realtors. In 2006 the meeting will be quarterly. The new format will be a luncheon with a speaker on a timely topic. Mark your calendars for March 2 and watch the column for more details. For information contact of AAR at 523-7229.

**Help:** The self-employed and independent contractors learn how to every business deduction, reduce your chance of audit and use tax laws to save taxes. Attend the Tax and Record Keeping Instruction for Self-Employed Professionals, Feb. 18. The class taught by Montclair tax professional Jan Zobel EA. For tuition information visit www.JanZtax.com.

**Free Classes:** If you think you can't do a home, think again. Owning a home is possible at any age. At "Homeownership - It Is Possible" presented by Elisa Uribe of Wells & Bennett, The class is 7

p.m., Wednesday, Feb. 8, at Wells & Bennett in Oakland. Hear about homeownership tax breaks and equity building. Register for this free class by calling 510-485-7272.

**First Home:** "How To Buy Your First Home" is held at CitiBank in Alameda. Come find out about the First Time Home Buyer Assistance Program. Join Presenters Alice Tsai of RE/Max Accord and Joe Bohannon of CitiMortgage for the next session, 6 to 8 p.m., Wednesday, Feb. 8. Contact Tsai at Alice@EastBayHouseHunters.com or call 866-407-0684.

**Confident?** Realtor Terry Kulka teaches "Buying Your Home With Confidence." This Piedmont Adult School class is 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 4. Bring your questions about home purchases in the Oakland/Piedmont area. Go to piedmontadultschool.org or call 510-339-4789 for registration and tuition information.

**Helpers:** Nurses, firefighters and Police officers are there when needed. Is there help if these helpers cannot afford to buy a home? A seminar, "First Homes: Helping The Helpers" is tomorrow from 10 to 11:30 a.m. To learn more call 888-681-7771 ext. 707.

**MCC:** Mortgage Credit Certificate Hold-



BOBBIE REID  
Credit Worlthy

ers. MCC Holders are now able to refinance and keep their MCC. They also may be able to remove PMI payments. Refinancing may not be everyone. An agent can answer questions and concerns at 800-799-3377.

**Unusual:** This is "Not Your Ordinary First Time Home Buyer Seminar." Kathy Bell-Mathy and Jean Powers of Harbor Bay Realty present the class. They promise a fun, informative session as their version of a first time homebuyer seminar. Ask about the next date or request a personal consultation via e-mail to jean@jeanpowers.com or by calling 510-865-3095.

**Care Guides:** Georgia Richardson of Richardson Real Estate Services is offering New Lifestyles, an area guide to senior residences and care options.

See REID, Page B4

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# Building a house that eats less energy

■ Tips on attacking energy problem with homes

BY KATHERINE SALANT

INMAN NEWS

For some decades now our government has been exhorting us to build houses that consume less energy. The rationale has changed over time from reducing dependence on foreign oil imports, to lowering utility bills, to reducing summer peak-load electricity demands that cause brown outs. We now have more serious reasons to build houses that use less energy: global warming and green house gases.

Most homeowners are aware of this phenomena, but most assume that the emissions causing the problems come from the millions of vehicles on our highways and the belching industrial smokestacks located in nearly every state. But here in the U.S., the largest source of carbon dioxide emissions, which account for 85 percent of all green house gases, are buildings. And half of these are houses.

An easy way to grasp the scale of this problem is to think in terms of cars. Every year, the amount of emissions attributable to each house in America is equivalent to that of two cars, each driven 10,000 miles a year. With about 80 million houses out there, this is 160 million cars worth of pollution, said Ren Anderson of the National Renewable Energy Lab in Golden, Colo.

These astounding facts are easily explained. We depend on fossil fuels to live in our houses and when these are consumed they produce carbon dioxide and small amounts of other green house gases such as methane. For heating, our furnaces run on natural gas or oil and vent the smoke up the chimney. For cooling and everything else in our houses that require energy to operate, we depend on electricity. The majority of our electricity is generated at coal-burning power plants, and these are hugely polluting.

Addressing the residential emissions issue head-on, the Department of Energy's Building America program has set the goal of reduc-

Here in the U.S., the largest source of carbon dioxide emissions, which account for 85 percent of all green house gases, are buildings. And half of these are houses.

ing energy needs in new houses by 50 percent within the next 10 years. This will reduce their carbon emissions by 50 percent.

The standard against which new houses will be measured is the average energy use for a new house in 2003.

Anderson, who manages research for the Building America program, said this ambitious goal can be achieved with some modification to conventional home building practices and the adoption of some newer building products that are widely available. But he also acknowledged that success requires that Building America not just encourage home builders to participate in its program.

It must also engage the buyers of these new houses because the house itself only accounts for 42 percent of the total amount of energy used. The rest goes to operate all the appliances, computers, entertainment equipment, gadgets and doodads that most households own.

The buyers' first purchase for their new house should be Energy Star appliances, which many builders now offer in their base-priced house. On average, major appliances consume about 16 percent of a household's energy consumption; Energy Star models reduce this by about 3.4 percent. Buyers can make additional energy cuts by purchasing Energy Star models for other items such as televisions and computers. Since its inception in the early 1990s, the Energy Star program has grown to more than 40 product categories.

Lighting is another energy drain that buyers must tackle. It currently consumes about 12 percent of the average household's total energy use. This can be cut by two-thirds simply by switching out incandescent bulbs for Energy Star compact

fluorescent lamps (usually called CFLs) that screw into a standard incandescent bulb socket. Though more expensive, Energy Star CFLs last up to 10 times longer than standard incandescent bulbs and the latest generation has been color corrected to produce the same quality of light.

To increase the energy efficiency of the house itself, Anderson's group has worked with builders, manufacturers and building scientists around the country to develop different strategies for different climate regions. New products and building practices are "road tested" in pilot projects and deemed to be cost-effective before they are recommended to home builders. Some changes require only minimal modification to conventional building practices; in other cases the learning curve is steeper, but "definitely not insurmountable," Anderson said.

Anderson's suggested changes to the house are not costless, however. On average, he said, they add about \$10,000 to the cost of 2,500-square-foot, two-story, four-bedroom houses that are standard offerings in most housing markets. Many of Anderson's recommendations simply ratchet up the efficiency of standard house parts. The windows should not only be dual-paneled, they should also have a low e coating, which many, but not all builders now offer as standard (a low e coating keeps the heat inside in winter and outside in summer). The walls should be framed with 2-by-6 studs, so that more insulation can be added. To prevent the escape of conditioned, heated or cooled air to the great outdoors, air leaks should be conscientiously plugged up.

See ENERGY, Page B6



"FAUX TECHNIQUES ARE EASY to accomplish and will give your room a whole new feel," says Schroede, color specialist with Dutch Boy paints.

## Simple faux painting techniques add relaxing feel to bed and bath

ZARA

With the hectic lives we all lead, many of us are looking to add some relaxation time to our schedules. We spend money on resorts and exclusive spas, but what about adding a little more relaxation into your home?

According to Donna Schroeder, color specialist with Dutch Boy paints, using the latest faux techniques and colors such as watery blues and pale greens will help turn your own bathroom and bedroom into a haven of relaxation. "Faux techniques are easy to accomplish and will give your room a whole new feel," says Schroeder. "Plus, faux brings a rich vibrancy to the rooms in which you spend so much time."

The following are examples of some of these faux techniques:

■ **Cloud technique:** Not many experiences compare to a beautiful spring day when white puffy clouds seem to just float across a crisp blue sky. It has the ability to make you feel refreshed. With the cloud technique faux finish, that same feeling can be obtained every time you step into the bathroom.

The first two steps are as easy as tracing cloud-like shapes on a wall in irregular patterns and applying a light blue color to the wall outside the pattern. Then blend in a second darker blue with a sea sponge. After the initial colors dry, the final step entails applying a small amount of white glaze to the edges of the clouds to act as an accent.

The Cloud technique is wonderful for bathrooms and can add a great effect to any ceiling or child's room.

Using the latest faux techniques and colors such as watery blues and pale greens will help turn your own bathroom and bedroom into a haven of relaxation.

■ **Frottage sponging:** Another sponging technique to make a wall really stand out is frottage sponging. Perfect for the bedroom, this technique yields a very modern, new vogue appeal.

Apply three different colors in two-inch by two-inch areas on the wall. Then take an ordinary sponge and lightly blend the colors together. After blending, take different shapes of torn newspaper and smooth them onto the wall. When you peel off the newspaper you are left with a beautiful, new faux finish.

To add a real sparkle to this finish, try Dimensions Metallics from Dutch Boy. When dry, these finishes are translucent and therefore add an amazing shimmer to whatever base coat is beneath.

■ **Travertine marble:** The Travertine Marble technique adds a soft feel to a room and is a great faux technique for a bedroom. The look is sophisticated and elegant. To create the travertine marble finish, apply three different paint colors in two-inch by two-inch areas, blend them with a sponge, and then finish it off with a white glaze to add dimension and sparkle.

■ **Diagonal blend:** Take any room to a whole new level with the

diagonal blend technique. Dimensions designer color Kaski Coffee, Polenta and you can warm up a bedroom with shades of orange, yellow and red to give it a cozy feel for a curl up with your favorite book.

Using a rag roller, take a diagonal pattern. Then use a washing brush to blend the colors with large sweeping strokes. These steps over the entire wall. The finished product is so much more than a wall, it's a giant paint brush sweeping the entire room.

■ **Granite stone wall:** A classic look in your home is new Granite Stone Wall. With a standard paintbrush, World Plaster finish and a Wall finish to a taped off pattern on the wall. Next, use a sponge to blend the plasterite finishes. Finally, remove the tape and paint in the areas where the tape had been. Granite stone wall.

For more information and other faux finishes, contact a Dutch Boy retailer at [www.dutchboy.com](http://www.dutchboy.com), or 828-5669.

## Reid

FROM PAGE B3

Guides are available for the San Francisco Bay or the Sacramento/North Bay areas. To obtain a complimentary issue, contact Richardson at 510-569-3499.

### RE-RE-REDUCED

"Re-re-reduced" is a workshop and forum for Realtors. Get a crash course on appraisal guidelines and a better understanding of how to explain differences in prices. This free class is 2 to 4 p.m., Tuesday, Feb. 7, at the Mary Williams Walton Auditorium in the OAR Building on Webster, in Oakland. Register with **Monique Washington** of Balance Financial at 510-452-8280.

### PLAN NOW

Need some help getting organizing? Plan your business including marketing, prospecting, expenses and financial goals for 2006. Veteran Business Coach **Kitty Cole** leads the session 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Saturday, Jan. 28, at the Claremont Resort in Berkeley. Life Coach George Joyce will be a guest speaker. For tuition information call Cole at 925-296-0800.

### BAY EAST

The Bay East Association of Realtors annual Achievement Club

Award Luncheon is 11 a.m., Monday, March 27. The program, "Finding Balance In Changing Times" is held at the San Ramon Marriott Hotel. The Realtor Club is an awards program that recognizes successful association members. The Club Task Force offers sponsorships. For participation information call 510-828-3633 or [bayeast.org](http://bayeast.org).

### NOT ENOUGH MONEY?

Are you working too hard? Not earning enough money? Learn the secrets of Top Producers, who have a life. By Referral Only presents "The Secrets of Top Producers", a free workshop. Find out how to have a profitable career working 40 hours a week. For workshop dates and locations call 800-834-1679.

### REALTOR UNIVERSITY

Education for real estate professionals doesn't stop when they receive their licenses. It is an ongoing process. The National Association of Realtors provides online education, with Realtor University Online. It offers over 100 hours of real estate and professional development classes. RUO allows agents to learn what they want, where they want, at home or in the office. Students can test-drive a course before registering. For available courses check out the Web site [realtoruniversity.org](http://realtoruniversity.org).

### BOBBIE HEARS THAT...

■ The Berkeley Association of Realtors awards outstanding achievement. Awardees for 2006 included **Gene Della Maggiora** of Coldwell Banker and **Rich Graf** of Old Republic Title Company. Maggiora is the recipient of the 2005 Realtor of the Year Award. Graf received recognition as the 2005 Affiliate of the Year.

■ The good folks at Keller-Williams Piedmont/Oakland waited until this week to bring in the New Year with a bang! Party planners **Broker Matt Murphy** and **Vanessa Bergmark** entertained clients and Affiliates with an evening of dancing, edibles, "gambling" and giveaways. It was all done New Orleans style at the Montclair Women's Cultural Arts Club.

### LET'S TALK?

Tell me about it! Fund-raisers, meetings, workshops, promotions, designations and change of scenery (company). Information deadline is two weeks before the event. Send an email to [bobbierid@mind-spring.com](mailto:bobbierid@mind-spring.com).

Faux techniques are easy to accomplish and will give your room a whole new feel. Plus, faux brings a rich vibrancy to the rooms in which you spend so much time.

PLEASE RECYCLE.

## CASTLE ROCK REAL

PROPERTY MANAGEMENT OF HOMES & APARTMENTS



528-9292

DAVID RATOOSH / KEITH CARROLL - BROKER

**OAKLAND**

**5656 La Salle Blvd.**  
This 3+ bedrooms 2 bath home restored to original beauty, with vintage appliances and refinished hardwood flooring. Great living room and dining room for entertaining with panoramic view! This home will take your breath away!

**Offered at \$935,000**  
(510) 821-1585

**KELLER WILLIAMS**

**NEW PRICE!**

**1642 MILVIA #1, BERKELEY**  
**\$499,500**

Victorian period details abound in this Gourmet Ghetto condominium. Close to campus and transportation. Poised on a lovely lot with fruit trees and flowers

- 2 bdrm/1 ba
- Refinished hardwood floors
- Archway, High coved ceilings
- 2 fireplaces
- Excellent condition

**Rayne Palmer**  
510.502.2063

**OPEN SATURDAY AND SUNDAY 1-4**  
See visual tour at: [raynepalmer.com](http://raynepalmer.com)

**Help U Sell**  
Full service. Big savings. The experts next door.

**\$6,950**  
Set Fee

**John Chang**  
Realtor

**1110 IRONWOOD RD, ALAMEDA**  
Right by the lagoon, rarely available one level 2/2 home w/ 2 car garages, two patios & updated kitchen & Bath. Located in Bay Farm Island.  
**\$599,950**

**5 SANDERLING CT. ALAMEDA**  
5-year-old SFR in a quiet and convenient community, 3 bed 2.5 bath, 2 car garage, hardwood floors, landscaped yard, custom window treatment, high ceilings. Walk to all conveniences. Very motivated seller.  
**\$688,000**

**339 BROADWAY # 101, ALAMEDA**  
Waterside condo with 2 bed 1 bath. Kitchen with stainless steel appliances, cherry hardwood floors, wainscot paneling, frame casings on both the windows and the doors. Walk to shops, transportation and school.  
**\$449,000**

**3915 PATTERSON AVE, OAKLAND**  
Updated Laurel Heights 3 bed/2bath SFR w/ hardwood floors, granite counter & maple cabinets, and 2 car garages. Walk to schools and shops.  
**\$639,000**

IN 2005 I SAVED MY HOME SELLERS  
**OVER \$800,000 IN COMMISSIONS**  
[WWW.MULANAGHOMES.COM](http://WWW.MULANAGHOMES.COM)  
**(510) 522-9888**

**Open Sunday 2-4 pm**

**417 Evelyn Avenue - Albany**  
**Spacious 2 bedroom, 2 bath Condos.**

Updated kitchens, granite countertops, new appliances, fireplaces, private balcony and 2 parking spaces in a Security Bldg. Walk to Albany Schools, BART and El Cerrito Plaza.

**\$350,000 - \$440,000**

**Security Pacific**  
Real Estate Brokerage

**Carylon Dopp**  
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**Debra J. Dryden**  
Broker Associate  
510.339.0400/200  
[dryden@grubbco.com](mailto:dryden@grubbco.com)

**28 Years of Experience with Integrity**



Keeping track of the latest reale estate activity? Don't miss the Weekly Sales in the Auto Section on D4.

## listing update



**4171 Maynard Avenue, Oakland**  
PENDING. Nestled in the Oakland hills this updated three bedroom, two bath contemporary home boasts a wonderful floorplan with fabulous entertaining spaces, beautifully remodeled kitchen and adjacent spacious family room which opens out to a wonderful sunny garden.  
Offered at \$749,000



**4106 Laurel Avenue, Oakland**  
OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. Pride of ownership is evident in this special three bedroom, two bath Mediterranean (c.1932), recently remodeled & expanded. Details include matchstick hardwood floors & pancake stucco ceilings. Beautifully updated kitchen & baths w/granite & stone.  
Offered at \$795,000

**The GRUBB Co.**  
REALTORS  
GRUBBCO.COM

**MAVIS DELACROIX**  
Office: 510.339.0400/205  
delacroix@grubbco.com



### A sampling of our current listings:



**San Pablo**  
Cute 3bd/1ba home -- hardwood floors, new double pane windows, tiled kitchen and bath. Roof is 5 years old. White picket fence front yard and many fruit trees in backyard  
\$425,000



**San Francisco -- Mission**  
Beautiful 3-unit Edwardian. 2 2bd units, wonderfully updated 3bd top floor unit with views to Twin Peaks. Ideal investment or as TICs (two units vacant at COE).  
\$1,795,000



**Mill Valley**  
Charming 4 bd, 1 ba home in popular Sycamore Park close to schools, rec center, downtown & more. Refinished floors and new paint inside and outside facade. Use as is or bring your imagination. There's lots of potential.  
\$950,000



**Prudential**  
California Realty

**Jim Hedges**

manager  
stunionjim@aol.com

415-762-3393

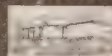


2241 Market St.  
San Francisco



2200 Union St.  
San Francisco

and our newest location!



221 Caledonia St.  
Sausalito



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REAL ESTATE  
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OPEN SAT & SUN - Jan. 28th & 29th, 12-5 PM

## LIVE/WORK Loft Townhomes

26 Newly Constructed Live/Work Lofts  
in a Historic Brick Building

1 and 2 Bedroom lofts available from  
the low \$400Ks to the low \$500Ks

Just a few left in Phase 1



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info@mutualcreamerylofts.com

Sign Up for the Latest Info @  
[www.MutualCreameryLofts.com](http://www.MutualCreameryLofts.com)

## open sunday

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. Spectacular new construction with Bay views near Tilden Park! Last and largest of three recent creations! Four bedrooms, three and one half baths, formal dining, large kitchen/family room, two-car garage with interior access.  
Offered at \$1,775,000



890 Grixly Peak  
Berkeley

**The GRUBB Co.**  
REALTORS  
GRUBBCO.COM

**BEBE MCRAE**  
Office: 510.652.2133/415  
bmcrac@grubbco.com

## open sunday

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. A grand traditional in Claremont Court! Spacious proportions throughout! Six bedrooms, five and one half baths, library, family room, two sun rooms, au-pair suite, large formal dining and attached garage.



2944 Avalon Avenue  
Berkeley

Offered at \$2,150,000

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**BEBE MCRAE**  
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bmcrac@grubbco.com

## PACIFIC UNION

GMAC Real Estate

OPEN SUNDAY, JANUARY 29th 1:00-4:00PM



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QUALITY WITH NEW WORLD AMENITIES!

Rarely available craftsmanship and beauty  
in this 3 bedroom, 1.5 bath home.  
Incredible Estudillo Estates classic.

932 Bancroft Drive,  
San Leandro

Offered at \$779,000

**Cindy Tedmus**

925.250.7347

cindy.tedmus@pacunion.com

[www.pacunion.com](http://www.pacunion.com)

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RATE	APR	RATE	APR	RATE	APR
5.875%	*6.405%	5.375%	**5.561%	6.00%	***6.110%



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\*6.405% estimated annual percentage rate is based on \$417,000 loan amount + 1 pt. loan fee. Applicable closing costs will apply. 10/1 adjustable rate mortgage is fixed for the first 10 years and then adjusted to market rate every year thereafter. Estimated payment on maximum conforming loan amount of \$417,000 is approximately \$2,467. Subject to maximum loan-to-value of 80%. Homeowners insurance required.  
\*\*5.561% estimated annual percentage rate is based on \$417,000 loan amount + 1 pt. loan fee. Applicable closing costs will apply. Loan term is for 15 years and subject to maximum loan-to-value of 80%. Estimated payment on maximum conforming loan amount is approximately \$3,380. Homeowners insurance required.  
\*\*\*6.110% estimated annual percentage rate is based on \$600,000 + 1 pt. loan fee. Applicable closing costs will apply. Loan term is for 30 years and subject to maximum loan-to-value of 80%. Estimated payment is \$2,998. Homeowners insurance is required.

Above programs are based on primary, single family residences, townhouses, and condominiums only. No prepayment penalty required. Cash out allowed up to 75% loan-to-value. Other restrictions may apply. All credit applications are subject to credit qualifications and underwriting requirements. Rates as of 1/25/06 are subject to change without notice.

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### ROCKRIDGE DUPLEX!

- Two - 2 Bedroom / 1 Bath Units
- Wonderful remodel, great refurbishing.
- Both units have recently renovated kitchens and bathrooms.
- New plumbing and electrical, new water heaters and furnaces for each unit, a new roof, and a partial new foundation.
- Quiet Boyd Street block close to BART and College Avenue shops and restaurants.



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## Energy

FROM PAGE B4

A gas furnace should be a 80 percent or higher fuel-efficiency model because it converts gas to heat more efficiently and thus uses less (this also means a lower gas bill). All home builders are now required to provide a 13 SEER air conditioning compressor; Anderson recommends an even more efficient 15 SEER model.

All the ducts should be sealed with mastic, a gray, gloppy glue-like substance instead of tape, which eventually disintegrates and allows as much as 25 percent of heating and cooling energy to be lost.

Anderson also recommends putting all the ducts in the living area instead of in the attic, a standard practice in many parts of the country.

Though attic ducts can be insulated, significant heating and cool-

ing losses will still occur because the insulation only lowers the loss of energy, it doesn't eliminate it.

When the ducts are included in the "conditioned space," (for example, inconspicuously run along the ceiling), their energy losses will pass into your living area, not the great outdoors.

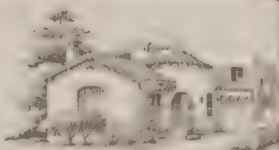
Additional energy can be saved by locating a furnace in the center

See ENERGY, Page B11

## coming soon

An absolutely charming Spanish Mediterranean located on a very attractive cul-de-sac. Two bedrooms, one +bath, family room, Bay views and lovely sunny gardens.

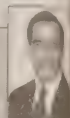
Offered at \$725,000



2435 Burlington Street  
Oakland

The GRUBB Co.  
REALTORS  
GRUBBCO.COM

STEVE MICHAELIDES  
Office: 510.339.0400/242  
smichaelides@grubbco.com



## open sunday

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. This two bedroom, one bath split-level home offers relaxed elegance with dramatic panoramic views of the Bay, San Francisco and Golden Gate, with a wonderful, intimate-yet-expansive feel reminiscent of an upscale resort in the woods. Located on fabled Panoramic Hill, this home is close to town and the University.

Offered at \$750,000

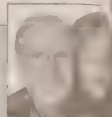
View a photo tour at [johnandjudith.com](http://johnandjudith.com)



3420 Dwight Way, Berkeley

The GRUBB Co.  
REALTORS  
GRUBBCO.COM

JOHN & JUDITH RATCLIFFE  
OFFICE: 652.2133/429  
johnandjudith@grubbco.com



## open sunday

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. Beautifully restored Craftsman on a prime Elmwood cul-de-sac! Legal duplex with exquisite smaller unit used as home office; main unit has five bedrooms, and four baths with impeccable detail and charm! Private patio and garden. Close to shops and BART!

Offered at \$1,450,000



2828 Palm Court  
Berkeley

The GRUBB Co.  
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GRUBBCO.COM

BEBE MCRAE  
Office: 510.652.2133/418  
bmcrac@grubbco.com

## coming soon

Conveniently located near shops, transportation and outstanding public schools K-12, this charming Dutch Colonial home has a beautifully detailed entry and spacious formal rooms. The updated kitchen adjoins a sunny breakfast area and large family room with garden access. The upstairs level includes four bedrooms, office and two baths

Price Upon Request



39 Wildwood Avenue  
Piedmont

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## 2440 Wilbur Street, Oakland

- Teardrop Wood siding in like-new condition
- Home has been meticulously maintained
- Two bedrooms, one bath remodeled with Conan on counter and in shower
- Wood laminate and some solid oak floors throughout the house
- Recently remodeled kitchen with Conan counters, natural finished wood cabinets, gas range and ovens
- Inside laundry room
- Brick & wrought iron fencing around front
- Newer dual pane windows, double hung wood
- Dining room
- Living room
- Extra room off the kitchen could be bedroom/family room/Office or playroom. Updated with permits
- Sun porch remodeled with permits
- Backyard has bricks surrounding the grass and meandering walkways, a virtual paradise can be created with your personal touches added to the garden



Offered at \$599,000

Craftsman Style Cottage In  
Wonderful Condition

Call For A Personal Tour

"Connie Empowers Dreams"

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## RED OAK REALTY



RED OAK  
REALTY

1891 Solano Avenue  
Berkeley, CA 94707



Just Listed!

963 21<sup>ST</sup> STREET  
OAKLAND

OPEN SUNDAY  
JANUARY 29<sup>TH</sup> 2-5PM



4 bedroom, 2 bath gorgeous remodeled Victorian. Everything upgraded with period details left in tact.

LISTED AT \$572,000

Dianne Arancibia, Realtor®

DIRECT: 510-717-2215 EMAIL: [dianne@redoakrealty.com](mailto:dianne@redoakrealty.com)

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HOME LOAN: \$700,000

MONTHLY PAYMENT: \$1770.00

LOAN REQUIREMENTS: 5.578% APR; 1 year pre-payment penalty; Licensed CA DRE #01183856; Rates & Terms subject to change without notice; 660 min FICO; Equal Housing Lender; Possible negative amortization.



ALEX ALEXANDER  
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Oakland



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GWEN HOOPE  
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# RED OAK REALTY | Homes Open Sunday

To sign up for daily email updates or for other Real Estate information, visit [www.redoakrealty.com](http://www.redoakrealty.com)...



**BERKELEY** \$1,525,000  
4+2.5 - Mediterranean with spectacular 4-bridge view! Includes solarium, fabulous kitchen, sauna. More at [www.izumitada.com](http://www.izumitada.com).  
460 Vassar Avenue Open 2-4:30



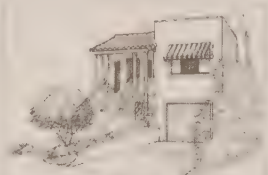
**BERKELEY - NEW!** \$615,000  
3/1.5 - 1992 brown-shingle townhouse with parking. Near UC, BART & Downtown Arts District. More at [www.justsellmyhouse.com](http://www.justsellmyhouse.com).  
2012B Hearst Avenue Open 2-4



**BERKELEY - NEW!** \$899,000  
TRIPLEX - Front house with 2 vintage, well kept 1/1 units. 3+1 detached house in back with open living spaces, custom paint & more.  
2439 10th Street Open 1-4:30



**BERKELEY** \$675,000  
3/1 - Meticulously renovated bungalow in central location on a sycamore lined street. More information at [www.1741allstonway.com](http://www.1741allstonway.com).  
1741 Allston Way Open 2-4:30



**ALBANY - NEW!** \$599,000  
2/1 - Family room, large finished rooms & bathrooms downstairs. Updated kitchen & bath. Hardwood floors & private yard.  
1061 Cornell Avenue Open 1-4:30



**KENSINGTON** \$749,900  
3/2 - Lovely home with eat-in kitchen, hardwood floors, formal dining room, designer colors. Near the village & coveted Hilltop school.  
205 Trinity Avenue Open 2-4:30



**RICHMOND MARINA** \$685,000  
3/2.5 - Upgraded home next to the marina, trails and parks. Photos and more information at [www.kateandmark.com](http://www.kateandmark.com).  
68 Sandpoint Drive Open 1-4



**OAKLAND** \$725,000  
FOURPLEX - Well cared for and with a newer roof, updated kitchens & baths. Possible owner's unit has 4 bedrooms. Close to everything!  
2841 Octavia Street Open 1-4



**OAKLAND** \$456,000-\$494,950 each  
8 TOWNHOMES - Duet-style 3-bedroom, three-story units with open kitchen plan and private, fenced backyard.  
3220-3234 Linden Street Open 2-4



**OAKLAND** \$572,000  
4/2 - Gorgeous remodeled Victorian. Everything upgraded with beautiful period details left intact.  
963 21st Street Open 2-5



**OAKLAND** \$699,000  
DUPLEX - Both flats in this fabulous Victorian include remodeled 3/1 with laundry & eat-in kitchens. Large yard. Great location!  
919-921 Mandela Parkway Open 2-4



**OAKLEY** \$429,900  
3/2+ - Gorgeous home in established neighborhood. Designer colors, formal dining family room, vaulted ceilings, 2-car garage.  
613 Country Lane Open 1-4

by appointment



**BERKELEY** \$525,000  
2/2 - 2-level condo in a classic Berkeley brown-shingle in Elmwood. Updated kitchen, extra office, workshop & storage areas.



**BERKELEY** \$749,000  
4/2 - Huge single family home. 3,200 sq.ft. of living space, 2 kitchens, big yard, great location. More @ [www.heidiandjerry.com](http://www.heidiandjerry.com).



**OAKLAND** \$869,000  
3/2 - Beautiful English Tudor in Crocker Highlands. Original details with modern amenities. This home is move-in ready!



**OAKLAND** \$539,000  
3/2 - Last of 3 condos in elegant Victorian. All the charm of the era including softwood floors & gallery decking for this unit.

[january 29<sup>th</sup>]

## CONGRATULATIONS TO RED OAK REALTY'S 2005 TOP PRODUCERS!



2099 Pleasant Valley Avenue Office:  
**KIMBERLY MILLER**

2983 College Avenue Office:  
**MARJORIE SPERBER**

Company Wide:  
**LEIF JENSSEN**

1891 Solano Avenue Office:  
**BARBARA HENDRICKSON**

Top Team:  
**THE SARAYA MOTLEY TEAM**  
(SARAYA MOTLEY, VIRGINIA PERL, TANISHA AVILA, JANIE VITALE)

## RED OAK REALTY

### Urban But Tranquil



#### 2012 B HEARST AVENUE, BERKELEY

Spiffy 2-story brown shingle townhouse. Close to the University, Bart, Chez Pannise and Downtown Arts District. This 3 bedroom, 1.5 bath is freshly painted with a fireplace in the living room, hardwood floors, new carpet upstairs and a small patio plus secure parking. LISTED AT \$615,000

OPEN SUNDAY JANUARY 29<sup>TH</sup> 2-4 PM

**Barbara Hendrickson, Realtor®**

DIRECT: 510-280-2140 PHOTOS@: [www.justsellmyhouse.com](http://www.justsellmyhouse.com)

Established



**RED OAK REALTY**

[www.redoakrealty.com](http://www.redoakrealty.com)

1891 Solano Avenue  
Berkeley, CA 94707

## RED OAK REALTY

### Rare West Berkeley Triplex



2439 10<sup>TH</sup> STREET  
BERKELEY

OPEN SUNDAY  
JANUARY 29<sup>TH</sup> 1-4:30 PM

Located on a beautiful street surrounded by Victorians, this triplex is ideal for an owner occupant. At the front is a duplex containing two well maintained, vintage 1 bedroom units featuring rustic fir floors, built-ins, laundry hook ups and classic Wedgewood stoves. In the back is a detached 3+1 house with a sunny open floor plan, hardwood floors, high beamed ceilings and stylish remodeled EIK, a large loft bedroom with extra space perfect for an office or nursery. Lovely landscaped yards and mature fruit trees.

LISTED AT \$899,000

**Carolyn Sherry & Grace Bishop, Realtors®**

DIRECT: 510-280-2139 EMAIL: [carolyn@redoakrealty.com](mailto:carolyn@redoakrealty.com)



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to the real estate community*

## **2005 Realtor® of the Year**

*Past President, Oakland Association of Realtors®*



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Open Homes



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7502 Fairmount Avenue  
El Cerrito CA 94530  
(510) 527.9111

289 Arlington Avenue,  
Kensington CA 94707  
(510) 524.0800

147 W Richmond Avenue,  
Pt. Richmond CA 94801  
(510) 231.1640



**Berkeley** **\$650,000**  
Exquisite, artistic, fully upgraded West Berkeley home. Two bedrooms, two baths, plus semi-detached studio. Features include gorgeous walnut floors, modern chef's kitchen, enchanting garden, and much more.

1208 Rose St.  
Gloria Polanski

Open Sun 2-4  
524-0800



**Berkeley** **\$565,000**  
Spacious, airy, light, 2-story traditional, 2 BR/2 BA. Large kitchen & master BR w/room for office or study. Appealing exterior, good-sized porch w/swing. Near BART, transportation & shopping.

1807 Chestnut St.  
Diane Mintz

Open Sun 2-5  
527-2700 x 28



**Richmond Annex** **\$535,000**  
Two bedroom, one bath home with panoramic Bay view. Huge 7,500 sq. ft. family room, large kitchen, roomy living room with fireplace, separate dining area. Low room, central gas heat, new garage door genie.

1532 Santa Clara St.  
Joan Underwood

Open Sun  
527-2700



**Richmond Annex** **\$465,000**  
Great opportunity to move into the ever-popular Richmond Annex. Convenient, comfortable and affordable two-bedroom, one-bath home. Large lot with sweet yard, detached garage, and extra storage. Move-in condition, great freeway access, Golden Gate view.

1522 Merced St.  
Mary Gray & Mykah Larkins

Open Sun 2-4  
527-9111



**Emeryville** **\$389,000**  
Easy Living! Immaculate two-bedroom, one bath, upper-level condo in the Emery Bay Development. New wall-to-wall carpeting thruout. Refrigerator, brand new kitchen stove, dishwasher, washer & dryer included. Balcony off living room overlooks common area. Living room fireplace. Minutes to Oakland & SF.

87 Emery Bay Dr.  
Darrell Hoh

Open Sun 2-4  
524-0800

**Richmond N&E** **\$479,000**  
Pretty 1927 cottage with two bedrooms, bath, and many features including: hip roof, new interior and exterior paint, rich hardwood floors, fireplace in living room, built-in dining room cabinets. Very spacious kitchen with eat-in area. Detached garage, large, level landscaped lot, mature trees.

3527 Cerrito Ave.  
Darrel Hoh

Open Sun  
524-0800

**El Cerrito** **\$450,000**  
Affordable two bedroom, one bath cottage in the Hills with huge backyard and Golden Gate and Bay views. Gallery kitchen, great neighborhood near Fat Apple's, B&B and Colusa Circle. Kensington Hilltop School.

702 Seaview Dr.  
Mary Gray & Mykah Larkins

Open Sun  
527-2700

For more information about these properties visit [www.marvingardens.com](http://www.marvingardens.com)



TO CONTACT THE REAL ESTATE EDITOR, CALL  
510-748-1655.



**1170 9TH ST #17.** Spectacular view from this 1 bedroom, 1 bath condo by the lagoon. Spacious end unit on the ground floor. Expand your living space out to large deck AND side yard with sweet garden of flowers and herbs.

OPEN SAT & SUN 2-4 \$420,000



**1521 Minut.** Marcuse & Remmel Victorian amid row of other historic Victorians. 4 bedrooms, 2 baths. Sunny and bright with lots of natural light. Newly refinished wood floors, upgraded kitchen with granite counters, 1-car garage adjacent to separate workshop and storage. Huge basement.

OPEN SAT & SUN 2-4 \$649,000



**2170 Pacific.** Lovely California Bungalow is a short walk to Park Street shopping district. 3 bedrooms, 1 bath, 1-car garage. Upgraded kitchen with granite counters. Upgraded bath with pedestal sink. Pergo and parquet wood floors. Plantation shutters and double pane windows.

OPEN SAT & SUN 2-4 \$620,000



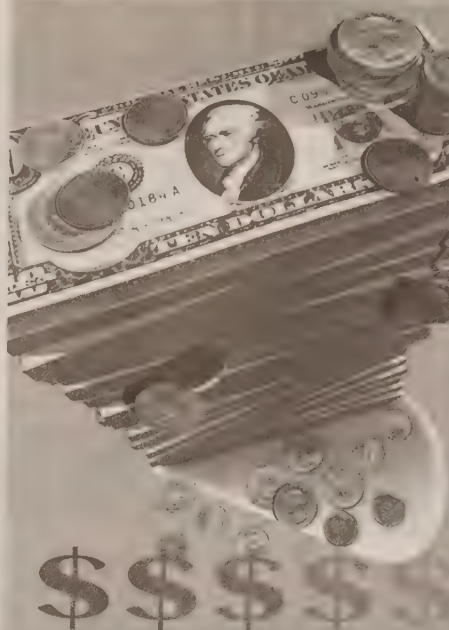
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BY APPOINTMENT

6833 MOORE DRIVE \$889,500

**Montclair.** Set among redwoods. Double size lot of 12000+ sq. ft. Renovated in the 80's, this spacious home has three bedrooms, three baths, in-law family room, formal dining room, living room with fireplace, hardwood floors, two car garage, level yard area and additional deck area.

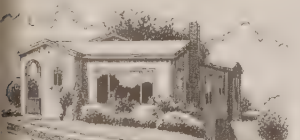
Frank Hennefer 531-7000 x235



6833 MOORE DRIVE \$719,000

**Leandro.** Estudillo Estates! Charming Mediterranean on a very special street. Three bedrooms, family room/home office, landscaped yard with fruit trees and patio for entertaining, formal dining room and separate breakfast room, hardwood floors, oversized one car garage and extra storage space.

Chris Christensen 531-7000 x242



214 MILLSVIEW AVENUE \$549,000

**Marvell Park.** Remodeled bungalow with charm and pizzazz! Three bedroom, one bath, refinished hardwood floors, living room with elegant fireplace, gorgeous designer kitchen with granite counters and maple cabinets, breakfast room with panoramic view, large basement with bonus room and storage space, sunny deck and flagstone patio.

Joe Phillips 531-7000 x228



24 ALLENDALE AVENUE \$519,000

**Oakland.** Sophisticated split-level Spanish style with architectural detail! Two plus bedroom, one and a half baths, living room with crown molding and elegant fireplace, formal dining room, fully remodeled kitchen and bath, bonus room, closet and half bath – great for office or den, large basement, attached garage.

Joe Phillips 531-7000 x228

69 COOLIDGE AVENUE \$535,000

**Wood.** Best value in area of Highway 580. Three bedrooms, two baths, formal dining room, living room with fireplace, hardwood floors, built-in china cabinet, basement, bonus room, laundry room, remodeled kitchen and baths, finished garage. Must see to appreciate.

Frank Hennefer 531-7000 x235



1742 12TH AVENUE \$499,000

**East Oakland.** Built in 1888. Beautiful Victorian. Updated kitchen and baths, hardwood floors, formal dining room with wood burning fireplace. A must see!

Teri L. Lester 531-7000 x262



350 PERKINS STREET #206 \$439,000

**Adams Point.** Spacious two bedroom, two bath condo with updated kitchen and bathrooms master suite with walk-in closet. Patio off of living room. Secured parking and extra storage. A must see!

Teri L. Lester 531-7000 x262



1444 E. 31ST STREET \$438,000

**Highland Park.** Amazing home for the price! Charming brown-shingle, two bedroom, one bath, updated kitchen, many original details, some tender loving care needed.

Tracy Butler 531-7000 x232



250 MONTECITO AVENUE #205 \$349,000

**Adams Point.** One bedroom, one bath, 900+sq. ft. large corner unit condo. Many windows, many upgrades, very light and bright, new carpet, updated bath, and newer appliances in kitchen.

Patsy Buhler 531-7000 x238

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Call Elisa Uribe at

510-485-7272 to register for this  
informative event exclusive to those  
interested in buying a home in 2006.

SIX INCOME UNITS \$875,000

**Oakland.** Two story clean 60's style building with a rear parking lot and laundry on-site. Price to sell!

Catherine Vallee 531-7006 x258

5 UNITS-ALL 2BD/1BA APARTMENTS \$850,000

**Oakland.** Great income producing property with 800 sq.ft. units, separate utilities paid by tenant, and parking and laundry facility included. Income \$57,000/year. Price to sell!

Catherine Vallee 531-7006 x258

DOWNTOWN FOURPLEX \$829,000

**Oakland.** Great unit mix of one 3BR, one 2BR, and two 1BR apartments. Separately metered and located one block from City Center. Four units priced to sell!

Catherine Vallee 531-7006 x258

VICTORIAN DUPLEX \$720,000

**Oakland/Berkeley border off Powell.** Perfect for the owner-occupant. Large three plus bedroom, two bath upper unit with loads of charm. Modern lower unit with two bedroom, one bath. Reports available. Beautiful garden area too.

Frank Hennefer 531-7000 x235

## LAND FOR SALE

NORTHERN CA COMMERCIAL LAND

\$4,398,000

Nine acres of commercial property in Northern CA along I-5. Currently used for five residential/commercial properties. Excellent development potential for shopping center, mix-use, home building.

Frank Hennefer 531-7000 x235

OAKLAND DEVELOPMENT LOT

\$1,600,000

Approximately 36,000 sq.ft. level lot. Located near High street and highway 880. Zoned for commercial, live-work, mfg. Reports available. Price below comparables. Subject to 1031.

Frank Hennefer 531-7000 x235

CORNING CA \$1,594,296

Three acre development property located in Corning, CA off I-5. Currently used as motel, but commercially zoned for many uses. Adjoining nine acres also available. Excellent locate for shopping center or big box comps.

Frank Hennefer 531-7000 x235

OAKLAND HILLS 2.34 ACRES \$439,000

Zoned single family. Slope varies from level, up and down. Area for building pad. S.F. and bay views. Utilities at front of lot. Shared gated driveway.

Frank Hennefer 531-7000 x235

MONTCLAIR LOT/APPROVED PLANS

\$283,000

Up slope lot on Westover Drive. Design review approved plans. Spacious and open floor plan. Call for agent packet and financing information.

Frank Hennefer 531-7000 x235

MONTCLAIR HILLS \$199,000

Large upslope lot, wonderful location, peaceful and quiet.

Nicolette Bot 531-7000 x261

## TAHOE LISTINGS

SOPHISTICATED MOUNTAIN STYLE

\$3,950,000

This is a custom four bedroom, four and a half bath mountain home built by a local builder. Incredible home with all the finest details of high ceilings, beautiful warm wood paneling, quartzite floors, granite counters and custom tile work in the kitchen and baths. Each bedroom has an attached bath. Office with lake view and two work stations. Pier with boat lift and a buoy. Three car oversized garage.

Jim Plumbridge/Carla Werner 800-858-2463

CLASSIC TAHOE

\$899,000

This is a classic three bedroom, two bath Tahoe home. This home has had some recent updates. The big and bright living room has a large wood burning fireplace and French doors that take you to a large wrap around deck. Hot tub off the kitchen. Close to Tahoe City and Alpine Meadows.

Jim Plumbridge/Carla Werner 800-858-2463

PARADISE FOUND

\$879,500

Summer or winter you have easy access to mountains and just steps to the beach. This home proudly serves all your mountain living needs with three comfortable bedrooms, two full baths, living/dining area with a more than ample kitchen. Spiral stairs to the master bedroom that basks in sunlight and has French doors that open onto a private deck with lake and mountain views.

Carla Werner 800-858-2463

WALK TO BEACH

\$650,000

This delightful cottage in a desirable Cedar Flat location captivated the chic styling of a beach cottage offering peaceful relaxation. This easy to maintain get-away offers three nice sized bedrooms, two baths, laundry room, adequate storage with an open kitchen/dining and living area with fireplace. Lovely view of the lake from the decks.

Pat Lucas 530-583-7504

COMSTOCK TREASURE

\$529,000

Rare buildable lot in Comstock Acres with nice views. Plans included and ready for 2006 allocation submittal. Walk to Tahoe City, Truckee River and Tahoe Rim Trail. You will love this location!

Mike Niles 800-858-2463

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Keeping track of the latest reale estate activity? Don't miss the Weekly Sales in the Auto Section on D4.



## JUST SOLD IN BERKELEY



2709 Claremont Blvd., Berkeley

CLASSIC BROWN  
SHINGLE HOME2709 Claremont Blvd.,  
BerkeleyOriginally offered at  
\$1,650,000

I represented the Buyer.

Roy Grigsby  
510.273.9756 Voicemail  
Roy.Grigsby@Prurealty.com

## CROCKER HIGHLAND

Just Listed  
777 Trestle Glen Road  
Offered at \$915,000Open Sunday  
Jan 29 ~1:30 to 4:30

Charming 1925 Mediterranean features lovely formal rooms, fine hardwood floors, French doors to full level backyard & garden, 4 bedrooms, 1 1/2 baths. A very nice home with architectural detail intact and many upgrades.

Visit [www.DoloresThom.com](http://www.DoloresThom.com) for photos & more information and to view all active East Bay listings.

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Fine Homes Specialist  
510/834-2010 Office  
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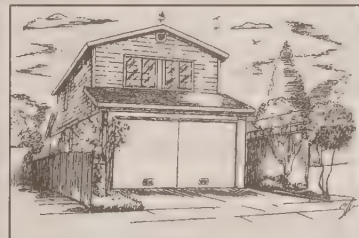
## JUST LISTED

A Picturesque  
Mediterranean

Maxwell Park  
4843 Fairfax Avenue  
Open Saturday & Sunday 1-4  
Offered at \$479,000

View a photo tour at [www.anitabecker.com](http://www.anitabecker.com)Entertain, Laugh, Relax, Enjoy,  
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Judith@GlassSabine.com



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Sheila@GlassSabine.com

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California Realty

## FEATURED HOMES



Close To The Village! \$1,150,000  
Montclair - Bruns Ct. 4+BR/3.5BA w/2nd unit.  
Appt. 510-583-5637  
Diane Klein (510) 527-9800



Sunday 2-4:30 \$929,000  
134 Gainsborough, 4BR, 2+BA, Near trails, cul-de-sac, nice yard.  
Aleso/Vickie (510) 428-0900



Sunday 2-4:30 \$695,000  
1208 Stannage, Berkeley, Charming 2BR Craftsman with 2BR au-pair and garden cottage.  
Barbara Reynolds (510) 868-1487



Sunday 2-4:30 \$639,000  
1618 Cornell. Stylish, sparkling 3BR/2BA near shops, restaurant, BART.  
Judith Glass/Sheila Sabine (510) 428-0900



Sunday 2-4 \$929,000  
1637 Alcatraz, Berkeley, 2-2BR/1BA unit. Exempt, recently updated.  
T. Jue (510) 868-1487

## OAKLAND

Sunday 2-5 \$1,695,000  
1754 Manzanita Drive. Dramatic new 4BR/3.5BA construction w/bay view.  
Leah Tounger (510) 339-9290

Sunday 2-4:30 \$1,448,000  
7112 Marlborough Terrace - Custom built 3BR/3.5BA Mediterranean atop the desirable Claremont Hills.  
Heidi Marchesotti (510) 339-9290

Sunday 1:30-4:30 \$915,000  
777 Trestle Glen, Lovely 1920's Med. 4BR/1.5BA, FDR, frpt, hwd flrs, level yard, many upgrades.  
Dolores Thom (510) 834-2010

Sunday 2-4:30 \$879,000  
2630 Carisbrook, Montclair. Level-in, 4BR/3BA, privacy, near park.  
Aleso/Vickie (510) 428-0900

Sunday 2-4:30 \$799,000  
4242 Norton Avenue - Lovingly maintained 3+BR/2.5BA home in Redwood Heights.  
MaryDresser.com (510) 339-9290

Sunday 1-4 \$725,000  
6615 Gunn Drive, Montclair 3BR/2BA Contemporary in wooded Tahoe-like setting.  
Dresser/Garfinkle (510) 339-9290

Sunday 1-4 \$680,000  
8009 Michigan Ave., Immaculate 3BR/3BA, bright, deck, Bay views!!  
CP Yang (510) 834-2010

7823 Crest \$659,000  
2BR/1BA + Cottage w/5 BA. Main home 90% Remodeled. Views!  
Kathrina Verzosa (510) 834-2010

## OAKLAND

Sunday 2-4:30 \$649,000  
3027 Roxbury Avenue - Sunny 4BR/2BA in Sheffield Village w/level yard and patio.  
DavidOtero.com (510) 339-9290

Sunday 2-4:30 \$649,000  
4520 Fairbairn. Pristine Mid century with great views, 3+BR.  
Barbara Reynolds (510) 868-1487

Sweet! \$599,000  
Lovely 2BR/1BA w/1BR/1BA au-pair. Near shops and dining.  
Anita Becker (510) 868-1554

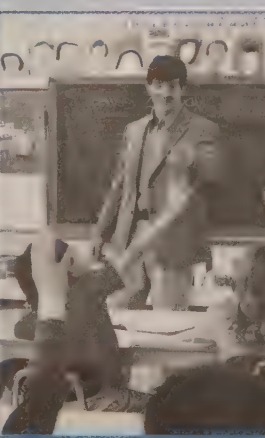
Sunday 2-4 \$540,000  
1731 9th. Large 3+BR/3BA built in 1999. Convenient to All!  
Terrence Jue (510) 868-1471

Sat. /Sun. 1-4 \$500,000  
2016 103rd Avenue. 3BR/2BA w/Living Room & Family Room.  
Kena C. Brown (510) 834-2010

Sunday 1-4 \$479,000  
4843 Fairfax Ave. 3BR/1BA Mediterranean. A perfect starter home.  
Anita Becker (510) 868-1554

Sunday 2-5 \$415,000  
3825 High #110. Updated 2BR/2BA, deck, laundry, gar. Fab! X-St. Bayo.  
Anne Delchler (510) 845-0211

Sunday 2-4 \$279,000  
425 Orange St. #106. 1BR/1BA Condo, sunny, close to everything.  
David Pleasants (510) 868-1400



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## BERKELEY

1395 Grizzly Peak \$1,595,000  
Custom 4+BR/2.5BA. Panoramic Views, indoor pool, hot tub & more!  
Henriette Lanier-Green (510) 834-2010

ALAMEDA \$350,000  
Condo Alternative  
3BR/1BA Coop townhome in desirable Alameda. Close to shopping & dining.  
Janesta (510) 868-1563

## DUBLIN

Sunday 1-4 \$729,000  
7548 Odyssey. Gorgeous, like new. 3BR+Den, Very Nice!  
Dennis Millard (510) 845-0211

## FREMONT

Sunday 1-4 \$724,988  
34255 Tan Bark Dr. - 3BR/3BA Tri-Vl-Gorgeous, upgraded, garage!  
Julia Korpi (510) 276-2020 x 160

HAYWARD \$475,000  
Best-Priced Townhouse  
Lovely! Staged 2BR/2BA in-unit Laundry, fireplace, gated community.  
Helgeson/Crandall (510) 868-1400

## CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

Sunday 1-4 \$599,000  
6348 Conlon, El Cerrito. 3BR/1BA Move in condition. Near all transportation.  
Lara Ghiassi (510) 527-9800

## CONTRACOSTA COUNTY

Sunday 2-4:30 \$929,000  
6046 Arlington Blvd., Richmond. Move-in ready 1+BR/1BA Cottage in Richmond View.  
Lucretia Jacobs (510) 868-1487

## SAN FRANCISCO

Sunday 2-4:30 \$1,150,000  
1650 Jackson #101. Classy 1885 Sq Ft home/work.  
Lillian Liao/Joshua Conlin (510) 868-1487

## RESIDENTIAL INCLOSURE

Sunday 2-4 \$929,000  
1730 Eagle Ave, Alameda. Large Victorian Duplex 5BR/3BA, garage, updated!  
L. Banks (510) 868-1487

## LOT FOR SALE

Claremont Hills Lot \$929,000  
114 Evergreen Lane. Upslope lot Bay Area Views. Pn. 4. 1850 SF Hme.  
Lexi Durst (510) 868-1487

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## Energy

FROM PAGE B6

Anderson's other target that is built into the house is hot water. This necessity of modern life consumes 12 percent of the total energy use because it is stored in a large tank that is continuously heated. Anderson would halve this with a dual strategy: A solar hot water heater that supplies about 30-40 percent of a household's needs and a tankless hot water heater that heats water as needed for the balance.

Pulling back for the big picture perspective, Anderson said that building America's goals are a moving target. As new products and building practices are tested and found to enhance energy efficiency beyond the current 50 percent level, the program will raise the bar and push for higher energy savings. In a separate interview, Deputy Secretary of the Department of Energy and Garmon emphasized that reducing greenhouse gas emissions is not the only benefit of the program. New home buyers will also enjoy significantly lower utility bills and greatly increased comfort.

How soon will a Building America house be available in your market? Many building firms, both large and small, have participated in Building America's programs since the Department of Energy started it 10 years ago. To date, about 30,000 houses have been built. More builders will participate when they

sense that buyers are really serious about energy efficiency. When they pass up granite countertops that will impress their friends and relatives today for energy efficiencies that will make a better planet for their chil-

dren and grandchildren tomorrow, home builders will join the Building America program in droves.

Katherine Salant can be contacted at [www.katherinesalant.com](http://www.katherinesalant.com).

## THE WESTBRAE GARDEN COMPOUND



1208 Stannage, Berkeley  
Open Sunday, 2-4:30

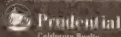
In this close knit Westbrae neighborhood, you'll find this charming Craftsman bungalow with the feeling of your own garden compound. The main house has the original gumwood molding and built-ins, a wonderful family kitchen. A deck opens to a sunny garden...as do the 2-bedroom au pair quarters and a darling studio cottage.

Offered at \$695,000

Top Producer, Berkeley/Oakland

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REALTOR

(510) 339-5776

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[mary@mbhr.com](mailto:mary@mbhr.com)



OPEN SUNDAY FEBRUARY 5TH

## 3414 Guido Street in Redwood Heights

Adorable Spanish on cul-de sac known as "The Lane in Spain." Move-in condition with lovingly updated kitchen and bath, refinished parquet floors, new landscaping and great patio with Jacuzzi. Vaulted ceiling and Gothic window in living room, 3 bedrooms plus studio.

Offered at \$729,000

New Listing...

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## OPEN HOUSE

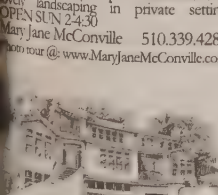


Piedmont \$1,425,000

Spacious traditional in desirable Piedmont. Level 3bd/2ba, beautiful hwd flrs, FDR, family room & nice pool surrounded by lovely landscaping in private setting. OPEN SUN 2-4:30

Mary Jane McConville 510.339.4280

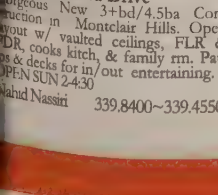
Photo tour @ [www.MaryJaneMcConville.com](http://www.MaryJaneMcConville.com)



Rockridge \$795,000

Charming 3+bd/1+ba craftsman in Oakland's wonderful Rockridge district. Finished basement, updated kitchen & bath, refinished hwd flrs, new carpet and landscaping. OPEN SUN 2-4:30

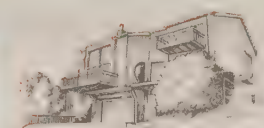
Tom Watson 339.8400~899.6364



Oakland \$649,000

Very nice & clean duplex. Painted inside and out, very good condition, close to shops & transportation. OPEN SUN 2-4:30

A.D. Nassiri 339.4000~899.6313



MONTCLAIR \$1,075,000

2060 MANZANITA

Soaring ceilings & windows beautifully frame both bay and Mt Diablo views. 4 bd/4ba, inc. luxurious custom master bath, family rm, FDR + lg rec. room. Studio guest suite overlooking parklands. Benefit by Orinda schools. OPEN SUN 2-4:30

Mary Jane McConville 510.339.4280

Photo tour @ [www.MaryJaneMcConville.com](http://www.MaryJaneMcConville.com)



CROCKER HIGHLANDS \$859,000

715 ARIMO AVENUE

Spacious 2700+sq ft historical craftsman. Large formal LR & DR w/ classic moldings & built-ins & 2 fireplaces. 3+1/5 w/ family rm & bonus rm. OPEN SUN 2-4:30

Rosie Nysaether 339.8400~339.4567

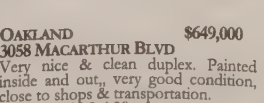


ROCKRIDGE \$795,000

5334 BROADWAY

Charming 3+bd/1+ba craftsman in Oakland's wonderful Rockridge district. Finished basement, updated kitchen & bath, refinished hwd flrs, new carpet and landscaping. OPEN SUN 2-4:30

Tom Watson 339.8400~899.6364

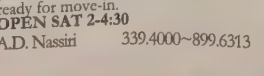


Oakland \$649,000

3058 MACARTHUR BLVD

Very nice & clean duplex. Painted inside and out, very good condition, close to shops & transportation. OPEN SUN 2-4:30

A.D. Nassiri 339.4000~899.6313



Oakland \$619,000

3251 FLORIDA STREET

Beautiful and charming 3bd/2ba house in a very quiet neighborhood. House is in very good condition and ready for move-in. OPEN SAT 2-4:30

A.D. Nassiri 339.4000~899.6313

PIEDMONT AVE AREA \$599,000

4336-38 HOWE STREET

Charming duplex off Piedmont Ave. 2/1, 1/1, yard, basement, & more. Ideal for investor - owner. Come see this best buy today. OPEN SUN 2-4

Arnold Mueller 339.4000~899.6311



UPPER GLENVIEW \$459,000

1124 HOLLYWOOD #2

Spacious, well maintained 2bd/2ba condo in 4 unit complex. Extremely private in great Glenview loc. min. from Montclair Village, easy SF commute. OPEN SUN 2-4:30

Nahid Nassiri 339.8400~339.4550



## APPOINTMENT



REDWOOD HEIGHTS \$729,000

3414 GUIDO

Stunning remodel of Spanish home on cul de sac known as "The Lane in Spain." 3bedrooms + studio w/ loft. Mary Hanna 339.8400~339.5776

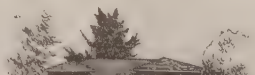


Oakland \$700,000

5214 E. 12TH STREET

Excellent opportunity to own a live/work warehouse. Consists of 3 offices or bedrooms, a tall roll up door, large garage/shop space, full kitchen. 1.5ba.

Ken Nwokedi 899.6333~485-5119

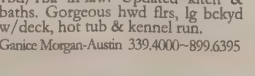


MILLMONT \$525,000

5969 MAJESTIC AVENUE

Charming 1940's 2bd/1ba w/ 1bd/1ba in-law. Updated kitchen & baths. Gorgeous hwd flrs, lg bckyd w/deck, hot tub & kennel run.

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KENSINGTON \$769,000

256 LOS ALTOS DRIVE

Beautiful 1950's ranch style located next to Tilden Park. 2bd/2ba & two fireplaces. Plus room can be used as spare bedroom or office

Michael Garza 339.8400~899.6368

## COMING SOON

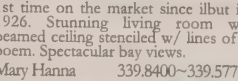


NORTH BERKELEY \$1,095,000

180 TAMALPAIS

1st time on the market since built in 1926. Stunning living room w/ beamed ceiling stenciled w/ lines of a poem. Spectacular bay views.

Mary Hanna 339.8400~339.5776



BERKELEY \$1,200,000

Stunning setting on half an acre for this 50's classic in the Japanese style. Bay view framed by lush hillsides, a private paradise.

For information call: Patricia Bennett 339.8400~482.9000



OAKLAND \$425,000

4715 TO 4717 FOOTHILL BLVD.

2 Commercial spaces/store fronts. 4715 is currently leased as a barber/beauty salon. 4717 was used as a restaurant. Great location!

Ken Nwokedi 339.4000~485.5119



DOWNTOWN OAKLAND 94612

2545-2555 BROADWAY

2 retail spaces for lease. 2555 Broadway 3480 sq ft, \$3480/month. 2545 Broadway 7500 sq ft, \$8000/month. Zoning C-40, exc Broadway auto row location!

Ken Nwokedi 899.6333~485-5119

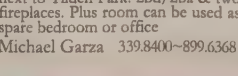


BERKELEY \$995,000

8008 Broadway Terrace

Custom built 4bd/2.5ba w/ the finest materials. Elegant traditional w/ modern conveniences. Exceptional yard and picturesque European views.

Nahid Nassiri 339.8400~339.4550



KENSINGTON \$769,000

256 LOS ALTOS DRIVE

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## shown by appointment

A classic bungalow in the heart of Rockridge. Beautiful details, stylish updating, spacious and light. Three bedrooms, one bathroom. Gorgeous new studio with loft and bath makes the perfect home office. Pretty landscaped gardens. Huge lower level awaits development. This is a very special home.

Offered at \$935,000



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OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. Located on a tree-lined street in central Piedmont, this gorgeous home offers five spacious bedrooms, and beautiful original detailing throughout. The light-filled kitchen-family room opens up to a lovely garden for easy entertaining.

Offered at \$2,690,000



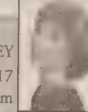
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## OPEN HOUSE

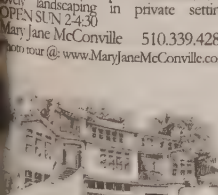


Piedmont \$1,425,000

Spacious traditional in desirable Piedmont. Level 3bd/2ba, beautiful hwd flrs, FDR, family room & nice pool surrounded by lovely landscaping in private setting. OPEN SUN 2-4:30

Mary Jane McConville 510.339.4280

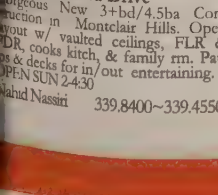
Photo tour @ [www.MaryJaneMcConville.com](http://www.MaryJaneMcConville.com)



Rockridge \$795,000

Charming 3+bd/1+ba craftsman in Oakland's wonderful Rockridge district. Finished basement, updated kitchen & bath, refinished hwd flrs, new carpet and landscaping. OPEN SUN 2-4:30

Tom Watson 339.8400~899.6364

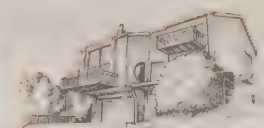


Oakland \$649,000

3058 MACARTHUR BLVD

Very nice & clean duplex. Painted inside and out, very good condition, close to shops & transportation. OPEN SUN 2-4:30

A.D. Nassiri 339.4000~899.6313



MONTCLAIR \$1,075,000

2060 MANZANITA

Soaring ceilings & windows beautifully frame both bay and Mt Diablo views. 4 bd/4ba, inc. luxurious custom master bath, family rm, FDR + lg rec. room. Studio guest suite overlooking parklands. Benefit by Orinda schools. OPEN SUN 2-4:30

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CROCKER HIGHLANDS \$859,000

715 ARIMO AVENUE

Spacious 2700+sq ft historical craftsman. Large formal LR & DR w/ classic moldings & built-ins & 2 fireplaces. 3+1/5 w/ family rm & bonus rm. OPEN SUN 2-4:30

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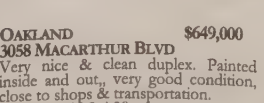


ROCKRIDGE \$795,000

5334 BROADWAY

Charming 3+bd/1+ba craftsman in Oakland's wonderful Rockridge district. Finished basement, updated kitchen & bath, refinished hwd flrs, new carpet and landscaping. OPEN SUN 2-4:30

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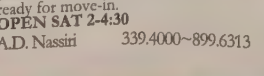


Oakland \$649,000

3058 MACARTHUR BLVD

Very nice & clean duplex. Painted inside and out, very good condition, close to shops & transportation. OPEN SUN 2-4:30

A.D. Nassiri 339.4000~899.6313



Oakland \$619,000

3251 FLORIDA STREET

Beautiful and charming 3bd/2ba house in a very quiet neighborhood. House is in very good condition and ready for move-in. OPEN SAT 2-4:30

A.D. Nassiri 339.4000~899.6313

PIEDMONT AVE AREA \$599,000

4336-38 HOWE STREET

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Arnold Mueller 339.4000~899.6311



UPPER GLENVIEW \$459,000

1124 HOLLYWOOD #2

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Nahid Nassiri 339.8400~339.4550



## APPOINTMENT



REDWOOD HEIGHTS \$729,000

3414 GUIDO



# Dropping the real estate boom in 2005

■ The market slowed in some markets in 2005

BY GLENN ROBERTS JR.

INMAN NEWS  
Some real estate professionals may remember 2005 as the beginning of the end of the boom — the year when the housing market let out some steam and began to fall back toward Earth. Some super-heated markets cooled as interest rates climbed, for-sale inventory grew and home-price increases moderated.

This is the year that Federal Reserve Board chairman Alan Greenspan described "signs of froth" in the real estate market, where prices have in some instances risen to "unsustainable levels," adding that, "we certainly cannot rule out declines in home prices, especially in some local markets." His statements sent real estate industry groups scrambling to shore up public confidence in the health of the market.

National statistics don't paint a detailed picture of a localized real estate downturn, though, and 2005 was actually another smash hit for the U.S. real estate industry at large. Sales of existing homes are on track to beat last year's record, according to National Association of Realtors statistics, and the rate of home-price appreciation is on pace to beat the 2004 rate.

For the first 10 months of the year, the rate of existing-home sales was about 4.6 percent above the rate for all of 2004. Median home prices in October were up about 17 percent from October 2004, the trade group also reported. But inventory of for-sales homes grew significantly in that time, too — the months' supply of for-sale existing homes grew 14 percent.

The Realtor association's chief economist, David Lereah, said in a statement in late November, "We are returning to more balanced markets between home buyers and sellers, one that places buyers on a more even footing. Housing activity has peaked and is coming down a bit, and we expect further cooling in the coming months."

Lereah and several other industry economists have predicted a soft landing for the U.S. real estate market as opposed to a bursting bubble, though economists have also acknowledged that some local real estate markets could suffer more dramatic slips as the market turns.

As for new homes, price increases are on a slower pace this year than in 2004. While the median price for new homes jumped from \$195,000 to \$221,000, or 13.3 percent, from 2003 to 2004, the median new-home price for the first 10 months of 2005 is up about 3.2 percent compared to 2004, according to U.S. Census Bureau and U.S. Housing and Urban Development Department statistics. And while new-home sales increased about 10.8 percent from 2003 to 2004, that rate of increase has slowed to about 7.6 percent for the first 10 months of 2005 compared to the first 10 months in 2004.

The U.S. Office of Federal Housing Enterprise Oversight reported this month that average U.S. home prices increased about 12 percent in the third-quarter of 2005 over third-quarter 2004, down from 14 percent from second-quarter 2004 to second-quarter 2005. During the first half of the 1990s, year-over-year house-price increases were more commonly in the range of 2 percent or less.

The office's chief economist, Patrick Lawler, noted in the Dec. 1 announcement that "price momen-

turn in the Pacific and New England states, in particular, has pulled back," and there is "some deceleration ... in a number of the faster-appreciating markets." House prices grew about 12 percent in the past year while the price of other goods and services increased about 4.5 percent, the office also reported.

Real estate agents in slowing markets have said that sellers are in some cases unrealistic about the value of their homes and the continuing rate of price appreciation, and this has led to high listing prices, fewer offers and longer time on market. Some buyers, they say, are getting priced out of the market by rising prices and interest rates.

Peter Casey, a past president of the Massachusetts Association of Realtors and president and CEO for Prudential Wilmet Whitney Real Estate in Weston, Mass., said, "The market is beginning to normalize, inventory is coming into balance. It's not a frightening market."

Sellers in his market area still "have an inflated vision of what their home is worth," he said, though they will undoubtedly adjust to the changing market. "Eventually sellers will catch on," he said.

Paul Sears, a broker-owner at Sears Real Estate in Springfield, Mass., said that properties in his market area were taking about twice as long to sell, on average, than in the prior year, though sales are still high.

An ocean away, in Hilo, Hawaii, some of the local buyers are getting priced out of the market, said Russell Arikawa, a Realtor at Ginoza Realty. "Low inventory and high prices are eliminating a lot of local buyers. They're struggling, searching, searching," he said.

In California, Realtor Joanne Dover of East Bay Real Estate Network, in the San Francisco Bay Area, said, homes that are priced right continue to sell quickly, but some sellers are slow to realize that prices are moderating. "The market is still good," though some of the higher-end homes are taking longer to sell, she also said.

Robert Campbell, a real estate adviser and author of a real estate

investment book, "Timing the Real Estate Market," has a much more dire view of the California real estate market. "I believe the California housing market is a bubble that is nearing its final hours," he wrote in a Nov. 14 real estate advisory for Southern California investors. "It could be a rerun of the stock market bubble in the 1990s," he said, adding, "I believe a 40 percent price correction is likely" in California.

"As the California housing mania ends and the concept of risk returns to its rightful place, there is going to be a rush for the exit doors," he also wrote.

The condo market is coming out of the clouds in some parts of the country, Inman News has reported, and experts have cautioned that

some parts of the country are of building too many condos too fast for the market to absorb. The Mortgage Bankers Association in a September report, "Housing Mortgage Markets: An Analysis," example, cautioned that, "historically, condos have experienced a high level of price volatility" than the overall housing market.

"The ability of apartmenters and developers to quickly absorb a large number of condos into the market is a risk. A slow ramp-up in supply could lead to a decline in prices."

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Rates based on \$175,000 loan for single family residence. Jumbo rates (loans in excess of \$417,000) based on \$450,000 loan. All rates are believed to be accurate but cannot be guaranteed and are subject to change without notice. Minimum downpayment requirements and other restrictions may apply. Closing costs may vary. Contact each company for full details. Points include origination and discount fees. APR = annual percentage rate and is calculated by each company. Includes costs to obtain loan and private mortgage insurance (PMI). Lock-rate lock period. ARM=adjustable rate mortgage. Companies pay a fee to be in this Guide. \*Age 30 yr. fixed conforming with 0 points. Fees are estimated costs based on a \$175,000 purchase money loan and may vary from loan to loan. These are not inclusive of all costs and do not include points, prepaids, interest, title insurance or escrow items. \*\*Fees in "Current Mortgage Rates" section of website + contact each company for details. Copyright 2006, INFOTRAK National Data Services and Knight Publishing Co.

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Approx. 5.5 ac. Fronting historic  
Diablo Lake-Incl. Personal dock  
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**Concord**  
\$699,000  
3BR/2.5BA Completely updated  
Pool & enclosed hot tub in backyard  
Quiet court location. New stainless  
appliances. Fireplace in family room  
Furniture included. Custom lighting

Steve Purington 925-935-9100



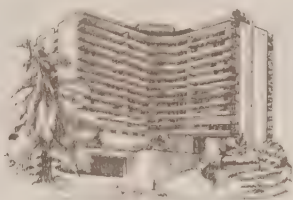
**Livermore**  
\$1,299,000  
4BR/4BA. Beautiful new construction  
In Vineyard Gate. Landscaped front  
and back with gorgeous brand new  
pool. Over 4000 sq. ft. in spacious floor  
plan w/ wonderful kitchen. Could be  
5th BR

C. Schlendorf (925)455-0505



**Walnut Creek**  
\$649,000  
3BR/2.5BA + loft. Updated Summit  
Ridge home. Kit & BA's w/ brushed  
maple cabs Granite counter, new  
stone tile floors. New garden. Neigh-  
borhood backs to open space

Janet Sweeney 925-314-1500



## Oakland - Lake Merritt \$649,000

3BR/2BA. Start the New Year w/ a  
new home! This co-op offers a 1774  
sq. ft. floorplan w/formal dining  
room. A decorative frplc, parquet  
floors & a 40' tile terrace w/pan-  
oramic views of Lake Merritt & the  
East Bay Hills. 24 hour doorman  
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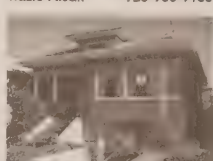
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**Lafayette**  
\$1,495,000  
4BR/2.5BA, plus loft/bonus room. A rare  
find. Secluded. Hardwood floors 2 fire-  
places. Large kit. Formal dining room  
Large nook. View! Flat yard. Walk to  
school. Expect to be impressed. 1/2  
acre and totally updated. Huge  
mature trees

Kazie Alsari 925-935-9100



**Alameda**  
\$589,000  
2+BR/1BA. Coming soon! Darling  
Craftsman w/ gorgeous light, built  
ins & hardwood floors. The house also  
has an enormous useable basement,  
garage, a sweet backyard and it is  
near the best Alameda has to offer  
Andrea Gordon (510)339-8900

Oakland  
\$299,000

Lot

Near Gunn Dr. Gentle upslope lot  
Soils Report, survey, good location  
close to walking path. Shepherd  
Canyon park

Shepherd Canyon Rd.  
Mel Copland  
510-339-8900



**Danville**  
\$945,000  
4BR/3BA. Coming soon. Approx. 2400  
sq. ft. home has office/bonus room,  
newer roof, huge 1/2 acre lot w/ park  
like yard & pool. A rare find. Delightful  
cul-de-sac

Jerry Moriarty 925-314-1500



**Lake Merritt**  
\$438,800  
1BR/1BA. This condo features 9'  
ceilings, built in floor to ceiling ma-  
hogany bookcases & wood burning  
frplc. BA & Kit recently upgrd. Walk  
in closet. 24 hr drmn service & valet

Victor Fierro (510)339-8900

Oakland  
\$180,000

Lot

Off Shephard Canyon to Banning  
Upslope lot with Canyon Views  
Good location, just a short distance  
to walking path. Survey and Soils Re-  
ports done

Girvin Dr.  
Mel Copland  
510-339-8900

Oakland  
\$950,000

Lot

near Broadway Terrace. One of the  
best great view lots with 36,674 sq.  
ft. View SF Bridges from your unob-  
structed private setting. Surveys,  
Soils Report & Plans for Mediter-  
ranean home

El Sobrante  
\$499,900

Lot

On a clear day, you can see forever.  
Own your own "Slice of Heaven"  
right here on earth. Build your dream  
home on this park-like setting of 2.75  
acres. Enjoy one of the best views in  
the Bay Area

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Section on  
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## PACIFIC UNION

GMAC Real Estate

NEW LISTING ~ OPEN SUNDAY, JANUARY 29, 2-4:30PM



1321 Ordway Street, Berkeley ~ Offered at \$725,000



Leslie Avant

510.338.1341

Located near shopping and BART, this charming light filled 2BR/1BA bungalow has been tastefully updated by the current owner. A spacious kitchen/family room opens onto the pretty garden and patio for easy outdoor enjoyment. Among the many amenities are a separate dining room, cozy fireplace and hardwood floors.

www.pacunion.com

open  
sunday

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. Ideally sited on a level, corner overlooking Monkey Island Park is this stately Claremont Court traditional home. Gracious, formal living and dining rooms level out to lovely gardens. Main floor bedroom with en-suite bath. Four bedrooms, two baths up including a large sunny master retreat.

Offered at \$1,595,000



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Berkeley

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Office: 510.339.0400/242  
smichaelides@grubbco.com



Located Between Beaumont & Park Blvd



Glenview home  
OPEN SUNDAY 2-4

1426 MacArthur Boulevard, Oakland

Craftsman Home in Oakland's Glenview area. Two spacious bedrooms, plenty of storage, split-level bungalow. Beautiful hardwood floors, updated kitchen with granite, newer, upscale appliances, rear deck(s), inside spacious laundry/utility room, original "swing" door leading to kitchen from formal dining room. TANKLESS energy-saving water heater, wonderful floor plan. Detached garage with power door opener, single easy access to Lakeshore/Grand Lake area. Located above the 580 MacArthur Freeway between Beaumont and Park Boulevard. \$528,000



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(510) 523-2378  
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11-19 YOSEMITI AVENUE



230 HIGHLAND AVENUE



1065 GARDENIA TERRACE



5455 BACON ROAD



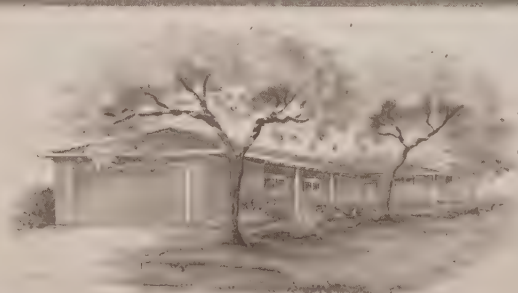
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## PACIFIC UNION

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COMING SOON IN MONTCLAIR



Donna Costella  
510.338.1355

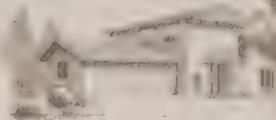
Southern sun, bay views and privacy  
3 bedrooms, 2 remodeled baths and one half-bath  
Remodeled kitchen, granite, stainless appliances and banquette  
Level entry, hardwood floors, 2 brick fireplaces, dual paned windows  
Oak-studded front garden, 3 decks, patio, level backyard area  
Close to the Village and schools

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Originally listed for \$749,000  
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510.339.0400/334  
lsettlemier@grubbco.com

## PACIFIC UNION

GMAC Real Estate

OPEN SUNDAY, JANUARY 29, 2-4:30PM

22 Moss Avenue #311, Oakland

This sophisticated condominium offers the best of urban living. A formal entryway provides a peaceful transition to the expansive living room. The well-appointed kitchen has been stylishly remodeled, floor to ceiling. The dining area leads to a spacious, slate tiled patio. Both the master and hallway bathrooms have been beautifully redone. The home is located near Oakland's historic Rose Garden, as well as both the Piedmont Avenue and Grandlake shopping and entertainment districts!

Offered at \$485,000



Lorri Arazi  
510.338.1330

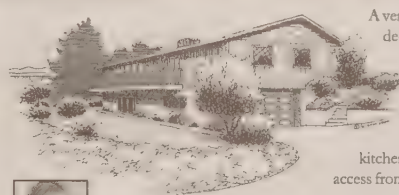


www.LorriArazi.com

## PACIFIC UNION

GMAC Real Estate

COMING SOON!



A very special property located on a secluded de-sac on the Piedmont side of Mosswood featuring a level entry, spacious and bright rooms, bay view, wrap-around deck, and a legal "Secondary Unit," all on a nearly level .41 +/- acre parcel. 4++ bedrooms, 3.5 baths, family room, kitchen, wood floors, vaulted ceiling, and access from an oversized, two car garage. A TRUE



Ann Nichols  
510.338.1319

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4301 DUNSMUIR AVENUE  
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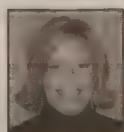


1740 MOUNTAIN BOULEVARD  
OAKLAND

Offered at \$749,000 - Represented the Buyer

2507 24TH AVENUE  
OAKLAND

Offered at \$459,000 - Represented the Seller



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## NEW ALBANY LISTING OPEN SUNDAY, JANUARY 29, 2-4:30PM



**925 Hillside Avenue, Albany**  
**Offered at \$578,000**

This stunning contemporary condominium which is bright and light includes a dramatic floor plan, open cathedral ceiling, formal dining room, spacious living room, study, 2 bedrooms, 1.5 baths, updated kitchen with granite counters, secluded patio, 2 car attached garage and is conveniently located close to BART, AC Transit, Solano Avenue, Pacific East Asian Market and easy access to freeways.



**Rich Gould**  
510.338.1347

## NEW BERKELEY LISTING OPEN SUNDAY, JANUARY 29, 2-4:30PM



**1628 Bancroft Way, Berkeley**  
**Offered at \$769,000**

Lovely craftsman style 3 bedroom, 2 bath with quiet elegance. Original house lifted, expanded, renovated, and restored by owner/contractor. Beautiful wood details, spacious remodeled kitchen, gorgeous baths, hardwood floors, radiant heating. Artistic feel and quality workmanship throughout. A very special home.

## NEW GLENVIEW LISTING OPEN SUNDAY, JANUARY 29, 2-4:30PM



**3800 Elston Avenue, Oakland**  
**Offered at \$639,000**

Move right in to this sun filled home and enjoy the captivating and expansive views of the bay and filtered San Francisco skyline. 3 bedrooms, 3 baths, updated kitchen opens to small deck and flagstone patio. Great separation of space with a lower level bedroom and bath. One-car garage with interior access. Convenient Glenview location.



**Joan Dark**  
510.338.1316

## NEW PIEDMONT AVENUE LISTING OPEN SUNDAY, JANUARY 29, 2-4:30PM



**96 Montell Street, Oakland**  
**Offered at \$525,000**

Welcome to one of Oakland's most sought after neighborhoods! This 1923 craftsman bungalow was built with all the charm of yesteryear: hardwood floors, crown moldings, built-in china cabinets, bookcases around the original brick fireplace. Cooking will be fun on the 1930s O'Keefe & Merritt stove. French doors to deck and fountain. The house sings with the colors of Tuscany and Provence and lifts your heart with its charm and grace. Its beauty is striking. One bedroom and one bath.

## OPEN SUNDAY 2:00-4:30



**ADAMS POINT \$985,000**  
**305 MACARTHUR BLVD.** (Open 2-4)  
Large, spacious units retaining original architectural details. Three flats in front building: 2-2BR/1BA, 1-3BR/1BA. Detached 1BR/1BA updated cottage. Large lot. Jeffrey Himmel x1307

**JOAQUIN MILLER \$799,000**  
**3515 BUTTERS DR.**  
3BR/2BA in peaceful setting close to parks. Split level contemporary mixes warm wood tones & natural stone w/high ceilings & recent updates. Garden w/pond & level area. Donna Costella x1355



**PEDMONT \$1,595,000**  
**12 SCENIC AVE.** (Open Sat & Sun)  
Spacious, traditional with bay & city views. Formal dining, spectacular kitchen w/adjoning family room. 4BR/3BA, level out patio w/BBQ. 2-car garage. Strach x1332 & Sheila Gallagher x1383



**BERKELEY \$769,000**  
**1628 BANCROFT WY.**  
New Listing! Lovely craftsman style 3BR/2BA. Original house lifted, expanded & restored. Beautiful wood details, spacious kitchen, gorgeous baths, radiant heating. Rich Gould x1347

**SAN LEANDRO \$669,000**  
**365 WARWICK AVE.** (Open 1-4)  
New Listing! Fascinating Broadmoor Farmhouse. Split level 3BR/1.5BA home. Formal dining room, bonus room. Large lot w/detached workshop & fruit trees. Michelle Miller x1335

**LAUREL \$549,000**  
**3624 WISCONSIN ST.**  
Little red farmhouse in the Laurel! Adorable 2BR/1BA home w/updated kitchen & bath. Original character & charm. Dining area, backyard, convenient location. Carla Buffington x1367

**PEDMONT \$1,350,000**  
**10 BONITA AVE.**  
Classic Country charm! 4BR/2+BA. First master suite. Newly done granite counters. Views. Nicely landscaped, level backyard, garage w/ shop. Debi Fitzgerald x1306

**MONTCLAIR \$899,000**  
**5931 MAZUELA DR.**  
Fantastic 3BR/2.5BA home w/wonderful city & bay views plus useable yard space. Remodeled kitchen & much more! Sandi Klemmer x1314 & Dick Cohen x1308



**GLENVIEW \$639,000**  
**3800 ELSTON AVE.** (Open Sat & Sun)  
New Listing! Sunny light filled 3BR/3BA home w/expansive views. Open flowing floor plan. Updated kitchen opens to deck & patio. Christian Downer x1340 & Ten Carlisle x1305

**PIEDMONT AVENUE \$525,000**  
**96 MONTELL ST.**  
New Listing! 1923 craftsman bungalow. 1BR/1BA, hardwood floors, crown moldings, built-ins, brick fireplace. French doors to deck and fountain. Joan Dark x1316

**ADAMS POINT \$1,199,000**  
**60 PARK VIEW TERR.** (Open 2-4)  
New! 1906 updated Brown Shingle fourplex plus 2000 sq-ft home. Stunning "great room." 3+BR/2BA, level out to lovely garden. Some bay views. Kathleen Blain x1343 & Georgia Cornell x1325



**ROCKRIDGE \$749,000**  
**5115-5117 MANILA AVE.**  
Two houses on one lot! Both homes are well maintained and separated by a lovely lawn. Front house: 2BR/1BA. Rear house: 1BR/1BA. Near College Ave. & BART. Nancy Moore x1302

**UPPER LAUREL \$629,000**  
**3652 HARBOR VIEW AVE.**  
Charming & spacious traditional style home. 3BR/1BA, formal dining room, large eat-in kitchen, hardwood floors. Wonderful front & rear yards. Cindy Houts x1364

**ROSE GARDEN \$485,000**  
**22 MOSS AVE. #311**  
Elegant 2BR/2BA condo w/tastefully remodeled kitchen & baths in beautifully maintained complex. Great location near Piedmont Avenue & Grandlake shopping. Lorri Arazi x1330



**PIEDMONT AVENUE \$875,000**  
**96 MONTE CRESTA AVE.**  
Classic Brown Shingle recently remodeled. 3BR/3BA, gourmet kitchen, living room & dining room with fireplace. Separate area for office with full bath. Fully landscaped. Francis Heath x1357



**OAKLAND \$399,000**  
**2091 39TH AVE.**  
New Listing! 2BR/2BA, fresh paint, refinished hardwood floors, formal dining room with built-ins, spacious country kitchen, detached garage and fenced yard. Lee Jacobson x1309

**PEDMONT \$1,150,000**  
**24 EL CERRITO AVE.** (Open Sat & Sun)  
Home of charm & quality upgrades in this extensively remodel home. Stunning "great room." 3+BR/2BA, level out to lovely garden. Some bay views. Kathleen Blain x1343 & Georgia Cornell x1325

**PEDMONT \$875,000**  
**124 RONADA AVE.** (Open Sat & Sun)  
Cozy cottage, huge lot! 2BR/1BA, formal dining. Large kitchen w/custom hickory cabinets. Large, level yard. Garage converted to studio/office. Wendy Gardner-Ferrari x1303

**BERKELEY \$725,000**  
**1321 ORDWAY ST.**  
New Listing! Charming 2BR/1BA bungalow. Tastefully updated. Spacious kitchen/family room opening onto wonderful garden & patio. Near shopping & BART. Leslie Avant x1341

**LAUREL \$619,000**  
**2420 RAMPART ST.**  
Extensively remodeled 2BR/1BA gem with loving attention to detail throughout. Chef's kitchen, Tuscan style patio & bountiful rear yard with hot tub. Lori Lombardo x1377

**OAKLAND HILLS \$329,000**  
**720H CANYON OAKS DR.**  
New Listing! Top floor 1BR/1BA condo with 2 decks, fireplace in living room, in-unit laundry & view of the trees & deer. Close to hiking trails. Kathy Flynn x1317

**BERKELEY \$995,000**  
**15 CREEK HILLS AVE.**  
North Berkeley Hills Monterey style 3BR/2.5BA w/expansive bay & bridge views. Charming original detail, wonderful brick fireplace & vaulted beam ceiling. Level yard. Bob & Carolyn Nelson x1345

**GLENVIEW \$799,000**  
**4342 LEACH AVE.**  
Delightful 4BR/2.5BA craftsman w/upper level city views. Spacious living room, exquisite dining room, roomy kitchen w/family area. Landscaped garden. Erika Celestre x1370

**ROCKRIDGE \$689,000**  
**5351 BELGRAVE PL. #2B** (Open Sat & Sun)  
New Listing! Gracious 2BR/2BA condominium w/sunning views of San Francisco, 3 bridges & the Oakland hills. Spacious living room w/fireplace & wet bar. Formal dining. Martha Holdstew x1312

**ALBANY \$578,000**  
**925 HILLSIDE AVE.**  
New Listing! Beautiful Albany Hills condo featuring dramatic floor plan, open cathedral ceiling, 2BR/1.5BA, dining room, study, updated kitchen & secluded patio. Rosalie Woods x1324

**BERKELEY \$245,000**  
**2550 DANA ST. #5D** (Open 2-4)  
Berkeley's best kept secret for 55+ age group! Spacious 1BR on 5th floor w/SF & hill views. Big living room, enclosed lanai. Pergo floors. Photos @ pacunion.com. Leslie Easterday x1363

## BY APPOINTMENT

**MONTCLAIR \$1,595,000**  
Stunning new home on a very secluded acre. Only two blocks from schools. 4+ bedrooms, three baths. David Nakawa x1331



**MONTCLAIR \$699,000**  
Enchanting bungalow nestled among ferns, roses & oak trees. 2BR/3BA, detached art studio, one car garage. Built in 1951. Kathy Flynn x1317



**NORTH BERKELEY \$1,195,000**  
North Berkeley Hills live on a unique & hidden site with spectacular views from every room. Bring your energy & imagination! Tour @ pacunion.com. Gini Erick x1339

**EL CERRITO \$825,000**  
Stylish 3+BR/2.5BA townhome in Mira Vista Country Club w/fabulous Bay views across golf course. Spacious light-filled rooms, fireplace in family room. Large master. Leslie Avant x1341

**ADAMS POINT \$599,000**  
Luxurious 3BR/2BA Penthouse condo with breathtaking views. Dramatic architecture, dining room, fireplace. Expansive deck. Great location. Jeffrey Neidelman x1385

**MONTCLAIR \$1,250,000**  
Piedmont side of Montclair. Level entry, spacious & sunny rooms, bay view, wrap-around decks & legal "secondary unit." 4+BR/3.5BA. Ann Nichols x1319

**MONTCLAIR price to be determined**  
Southern sun, bay views & privacy. 3BR/2 remodeled baths & one half bath. Remodeled kitchen. Level entry, hardwood floors, 2 fireplaces, dual paned windows. Donna Costella x1355

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# California MLS consolidation moves forward

■ Group seeks real estate brokers to serve as leaders

INMAN NEWS

A group of six northern California multiple listing services, which plan to band together to form one of the largest such services in the country, have named their new organization the Northern California Real Estate Exchange (NCREX).

The exchange will be phased in over the next couple of years, and is expected to facilitate up to 100,000 property transactions per year. This will amount to \$100 billion in annual real estate sales, announced Clarity Consulting, a company that is providing services to assist with the consolidation plan.

"The 12-person regionalization task force chose the term 'real estate exchange' because the term 'MLS' is somewhat outdated and means different things to different people; plus it also has historical baggage attached to it," said Gregg Larson, CEO of Clarity Consulting. "We are trying to create a brand-new real estate information ex-

change for the next 20 years, and we wanted to start with a blank sheet of paper to design it properly." He added, "A fresh name helps free up people's thinking, which opens the possibility to do something truly remarkable in Northern California."

The consolidation of MLS data has been a hot topic in California and elsewhere. There are separate discussions among a group of Southern California MLSs to regionalize the sharing of property data, and a San Francisco lawyer is pursuing a ballot initiative to create a statewide multiple listings service. Also, California Association of Realtors officials have laid some groundwork for sharing MLS data statewide.

It has been a controversial issue, though, as some local MLSs are worried that regionalization efforts could lead to membership and staff reductions, and some brokers and agents worry that real estate professionals will expand their geographic focus to compete on unfamiliar turf.

The exchange has begun its search for brokerage owners and brokerage senior executives to fill 12 of its 15 director seats. The three remaining seats are reserved for the organization's future CEO and two outside directors.

They are looking for broker candidates who are business oriented, successful, and well respected industry leaders. Directors for the new entity will come from a mix of small, medium, and large companies.

"NCREX is being designed to serve its brokers, agents and other subscribers, not to be a profit center. Our goal is to create a technically competent information management and service delivery organization that is financially stable and designed to meet the challenges of tomorrow's business world. NCREX is not being designed to enrich anyone or any organization in the process," said Larson, who is acting as NCREX spokesperson.

The MLS participants have agreed to standardize on a single

set of business rules and regulations and a common database structure. The organization will begin mapping the multiple MLS databases into one common database format later this month.

"The exchange expects to have the standardized and consolidated database completed and populated by mid-2006 and available to brokers and their authorized IDX providers by third-quarter 2006. The multiple MLS organizations will consolidate operations and convert to the new NCREX system throughout 2007," the announcement states.

The regional MLS is expected to

The consolidation of MLS data has been a topic in California. Southern California MLSs want to regionalize the sharing of data, and San Francisco lawyer is pursuing a ballot initiative to create a statewide MLS. California Association of Realtors officials have laid groundwork for sharing data statewide.

create efficiencies for real estate brokers and agents by eliminating the need to belong to multiple MLSs and comply with multiple sets of rules and regulations. The organizations founding NCREX are: RE-Infolink, Contra Costa MLS, Bay

East MLS, East Bay Area Central Valley MLS and San Francisco Association of Realtors.

The group of participants also invited other Northern California MLSs to join NCREX, too.

## Freddie Mac predicts 'soft landing' for housing market

■ Economic outlook basically positive

INMAN NEWS

Citing growth in the gross domestic product, low price inflation and low unemployment, mortgage giant Freddie Mac Thursday predicted a soft landing for the U.S. housing market in 2006.

"Without question America's joy ride in the housing market is coming to an end," Freddie Mac said in its January 2006 Economic Outlook statement. "However, [a] conditions are favorable for a soft landing, perhaps with a little turbulence on the approach."

The "turbulence" could be caused by a couple of factors, one of them being an inverted yield curve, the mortgage giant said. This is when short-term interest rates are lower than long-term rates, which became the case in the U.S. in December.

Normally, long-term interest rates are higher than short-term rates because it's hard to predict what will happen far out in the future.

Higher short-term rates may lead to a bumpy descent for homeowners who used adjustable rate mortgages to buy their homes, Freddie Mac warned, because the interest rate savings on them are now smaller.

Despite these concerns, overall the government-sponsored enterprise was optimistic for the housing market in 2006.

Factors influencing the optimism included growth in the gross domestic product, which is the total value of goods and services pro-

duced by a nation. Third-quarter economic growth came in at 4.1 percent, Freddie Mac said, describing this as a "healthy number." Freddie Mac's chief economist expects "strong" economic growth for 2006.

Freddie also expects inflation to be low, at 2.5 percent, throughout 2006, another good sign. Also, the unemployment rate is expected to stay between 4.9 and 5 percent in 2006.

Mortgage rates, a critically important factor for the housing market, will average 6.4 percent over the year, according to Freddie Mac. This could be good news for the market.

"At 6 and 7 percent we still see upward movement or, at worst, side-

ways-moving price projections," Michael Sklarz, chief valuation officer for Fidelity National Financial, said in an Inman News interview in December 2005. Other experts have seconded this opinion.

Adjustable-rate mortgages will lose some of their appeal in 2006, Freddie Mac predicted, falling from the 31 percent share of applications in 2005 to around 27 percent.

Housing starts will fall as much as 9 percent, Freddie Mac warned, to 1.90 million units. Homes sales are predicted to slow to 7.10 million units, a 5 percent drop, but still the third best level ever.

Freddie Mac believes homes will continue to appreciate, with a growth rate around 7 percent.

### open sunday

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. A captivating three bedroom, two bath renovated one level Cape Cod! Inviting formal rooms lead graciously through French doors to a private patio and garden. The well organized kitchen makes cooking a pleasure. Beautiful master suite with fireplace, garden access and luxurious master bath. A one of a kind treasure! Photos - 7238cutting.com.

Offered at \$850,000

The GRUBB Co.  
REALTORS  
GRUBBCO.COM



7238 Cutting Boulevard  
El Cerrito Hills

HELENE BARKIN  
Office: 510.652.2133/424  
hbarkin@grubbco.com  
helenebarkin.com

### open sunday

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. Elegant three bedroom, three bath central Piedmont traditional.

Offered at \$1,095,000

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130 Highland Avenue  
Piedmont

ANIAN PETTIT TUNNEY, CRS  
Office: 510.339.0400/217  
tunney@grubbco.com

april.com

It's just one click to a complete list of virtually all homes for sale in the Bay Area.

ALAN PINO  
REALTORS

ORINDA

925.314.1111



**Country Club Classic Mediterranean**  
European ambience with terra cotta floors, balustrades, terraces, fountains and privacy. Fabulous views from this elegant five bedroom four bath home. \$2,488,000

ORINDA

925.258.1111



**Price Reduced - Motivated Seller**  
Elegant 5000+/-sf home in Orinda Downs. Beautifully designed with a renovated gourmet kitchen and luxurious master bath. Private setting with panoramic views. \$2,395,000

BERKELEY

510.899.8000



**Sumptuous Spanish Mediterranean**  
Bay and Marin views. 4bd/4.5ba built in 1980. Rich hardwood. 6 burner gas, granite kitchen with adjoining FR. Formal DR. Master with tub. Bonus room. Lawn/garden. \$1,899,000

MORAGA

925.258.1111



**On the Golf Course**  
Vacation at home in this beautifully remodeled detached home fronting the 8th fairway of the Moraga Country Club. Open bright single story plan with granite counters. \$1,049,000

ANTIOCH

925.258.1111



**View Property**  
Fantastic view property located in Dallas Ranch. Magnificent entry, gourmet kitchen, built-in surround sound, 4bd/3ba, loft, master retreat and 3-car garage. \$929,000

EL CERRITO

510.899.8000



**Wonderful El Cerrito Hills View Home**  
Rare 4bd/1.5ba with hardwood floors. Spectacular bay/bridge views and very private ivy-walled level backyard. Fireplace in living room with lots of light, eat-in kitchen. \$779,000

EL SOBRANTE

925.258.1111



**Quaint Charming with Views**  
Located in a quiet residential neighborhood close to schools, this charming home has been meticulously maintained and lovingly cared for by the original owner. \$549,000

MORAGA

925.258.1111



**Ridge Views**  
Great room home with spectacular views of Mulholland Ridge. Vaulted ceilings, new dual paned windows, new kitchen with granite counters and wood stove. \$489,900

OAKLAND

510.899.8000



**Haddon Hills Flat**  
Spacious one bedroom tenants-in-common near Lake Merritt and Lakeshore Blvd. Bright and sunny top floor unit. Great with hardwood floors. Laundry. \$799,000

ORINDA 2 Theatre Square 925.258.1111 MONTCLAIR 6116 LaSalle Avenue 510.899.8000

### BP Floorworks

**HARDWOOD FLOORS with VALUE!**  
Superior craftsmanship for less money. We install and refinish all types of hardwood flooring, custom architectural design, mixed media, exotics, prefinished and laminates. In addition, we do stairs & handrails. Over 10 years of experience.

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### TEREE LEE REAL ESTATE TEAM



Tere Lee, CRS  
Team Leader

"TRUST A PROFESSIONAL WHO CARES"

### OAKLAND

OPEN SAT & SUN 1-4, JAN 29, 30  
3600 MAYFALL AVE. UNIT #112  
2 Bedrooms/1.5 Bathrooms  
Beautiful townhouse in quiet community, upgraded throughout. Kitchen w/maple cabinets and granite countertops, new carpet and flooring throughout. New light fixtures and more... Must see! \$389,000

**SAN LEANDRO**  
14000 OUTRIGGER DRIVE  
2BR/1.5BA at Marina Seaside  
\$439,000

1400 CARPENTER ST. #317  
2BD/1.5BA. Condo at Pacific Plaza in  
Painted, new carpet, flooring and  
appliances. Close to BART.  
\$369,000

**BRAND NEW LISTING**  
14408 NEAGATE DRIVE  
2BD/2.5BA. Townhouse-style with  
touches at Marina Seaside  
\$479,000

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Website:  
www.terelehomes.com

**KELLER WILLIAMS.**  
14824 Wicks Blvd.  
San Leandro, CA 94577



Looking for a new home? Don't miss this week's Open Home Guide starting on page B18

## RECENTLY SOLD



### 7 LAKE AVENUE PIEDMONT

3 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths,  
good indoor-outdoor  
living, close to Piedmont  
Avenue & Beach  
Elementary. Sold quickly  
for over the asking price.

Offered at  
\$989,000



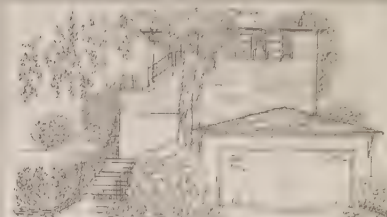
**DIAN HYMER, CRS**  
Associate Broker  
Previews Property Specialist  
510-339-4777  
Photo Tours At: dianhymer.com

## JUST SOLD



### 3972 FRUITVALE AVE. OAKLAND

Offered at  
\$599,000



**BARBARA  
HARDACRE**  
Coldwell Banker  
510-339-4700

Represented the  
Buyer

## MONTCLAIR



### 2100 ARROWHEAD OAKLAND, CA

New construction with all  
of the goodies. Gourmet  
kitchen w/ stainless steel  
appliances granite counter  
tops, and all Alder  
cabinets, formal living  
& dining, family room,  
great master suite.



**DAVID ECKERT**  
Coldwell Banker  
510-339-4700

## A MUST SEE!



### 1315 Ashby Ave., Berkeley

Beautiful, completely refurbished 3 bedroom/2 full bath home in Berkeley with over 130K in upgrades. Hardwood floors/Italian ceramic tile, bathrooms/granite kitchen center/designer lighting - just too much to list.

Priced at \$649,000

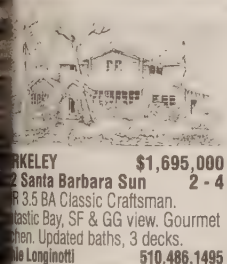
Call Mason at (925) 548-4040 Owner/Agent

# 100 YEARS. MILLIONS OF DREAMS.

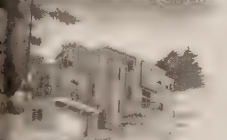


Established 1906

## OPEN HOMES



**BERKELEY** \$1,695,000  
2 Santa Barbara Sun 2 - 4  
3.5 BA Classic Craftsman.  
Classic Bay, SF & GG view. Gourmet  
kitchen. Updated baths, 3 decks.  
Joe Longinotti 510.486.1495



**MONTCLAIR** \$1,425,000  
2100 Arrowhead Dr  
Sun 1:30 - 4:30  
2.5 BA End finish-work, gourmet  
kitchen, formal Living Room & Dining  
Room. Lancaster 510.339.4700



**MONTCLAIR** \$1,160,000  
1555 Sobrante Road  
Sat/Sun 2 - 4:30  
2.5 BA Fabulous newer home  
with high-end finish work.  
Joyce Eckert/Karen Lum 510.339.4700



**MONTCLAIR** \$895,000  
330 Chelton  
Sun 2 - 4:30  
2 BA Delightful Mid-Century, grt  
views, good indr-outdr living,  
w/ upgrades.  
Dian Hymer 510.339.4700

## OPEN HOMES

**GLENVIEW UPPER** \$780,000  
4630 San Sebastian Ave  
Sat/Sun 2 - 4:30.  
3+ BR 1 BA Full Finished Basement.  
Upper Glenview.  
Terry Anthony 510.339.4700



**BERKELEY** \$775,000  
1235 Cornell Ave Sun 2 - 4  
4 BR 2 BA + Detached Studio. Stylish  
property w/updated kitchen, master  
bath, hwd. Move-in cond.  
Diana Kay 510.486.1495

**MONTCLAIR** \$769,000  
6629 Chelton Sun 2 - 5  
4+ BR 2 BA Tahoe in Montclair. Enjoy  
tranquility from this spacious light-  
filled home on a huge lot.  
Terry Kulka 510.339.4700



**MONTCLAIR** \$769,000  
6573 Chelton Sat/Sun 2 - 4:30  
3 BR 2 BA Montclair Contemporary.  
Soaring ceilings/open flr plan, FP,  
HWF, etc, 2 C Gar, Canyon Vul  
Ruby Ng 510.339.4700



**OAKMORE** \$769,000  
4033 Lyman Sun 2 - 4:30  
3 BR 2 BA Traditional w/ 1930s  
architectural detail, FDR, hwd flrs,  
terraced garden & fruit trees  
Darcy Diamantine &  
Lial Bostick 510.339.4700

## OPEN HOMES

**HERCULES** \$739,000  
1015 Craftsman Dr Sun 2 - 4  
3 BR 2.5 BA Victoria By the Bay!  
Upgraded KIT, LR w/FRPL, MSTR BR,  
2-car garage, nr shops & trans.  
Michael Oh 510.486.1495

**OAKLAND** \$649,000  
884-886 Arlington Sun 2 - 4:30  
North Oakland Duplex! Upstairs is a 2  
bedroom 1 bath. Downstairs has a 1  
plus bdrm 1 ba.  
Noni Robinson 510.339.4700

**EL CERRITO** \$589,000  
8514 Terrace Dr Sun 1 - 4  
2 BR 1 BA Hardwood Floors &  
fireplace in LVRM, views, extra large  
lot, near shops & transportation.  
Gene Della Maggiora 510.486.1495



**NORTH OAKLAND** \$574,000  
4026 West St Sun 1:30 - 4:30  
3 BR 2 BA Exceptional, spacious  
soon-to-be condo. SF, hill views.  
Remodeled vintage beauty. Garage.  
Gregg Lustig 510.486.1495

**HILLER HIGHLANDS** \$465,000  
46 Spyglass Hl Sun 2 - 4:30  
1 BR 1 BA Bright contemporary  
townhouse w/breathtaking SF Bay &  
bridges views. Easy freeway access.  
Peter Nicolopoulos 510.339.4700

**BERKELEY** \$450,000  
1787 Oxford St Sun 2 - 4  
1 BR 1 BA Lg bright condo w/2 bridge  
vu. In-unit Indry, dishwashr, office/  
alcove, DR, eat-in kitch.  
Zanna Knight 510.486.1495

**EL CERRITO** \$435,000  
6806 Gladys Ave Sun 2 - 4  
1 BR 1 BA Charming cottage. Large  
fenced yard. Great Neighborhood, near  
BART.  
Kim & Barbara Marienthal 510.486.1495

## BY APPOINTMENTS



**BERKELEY HILLS** \$3,075,000  
Unique Home, 3 BR 3 BA Asian  
Craftsman fusion. LV rm w/cathedral  
ceilings, splendid grounds, gym, Bay  
& GG views.  
Kim & Barbara Marienthal 510.486.1495

**LAFAYETTE** \$2,975,000  
5 BR 5.5 BA Modern Craftsman.  
Design by J Wright. Pool, over .5-acre  
lot. www.4007Nataasha.com.  
Kim & Barbara Marienthal 510.486.1495



**OAKLAND** \$1,495,000  
6 BR 3.5 BA Breathtaking SF vu  
setting. Elegant Chabot Hglds tradtnl.  
Grt lawns, 3c gar, isld kitch.  
Diana Kay 510.486.1495

**OAKLAND** \$699,000  
6 Low-maintenance units on huge lot  
close to Mills College. Owner's unit  
has new carpet & kitchen floor tiles.  
Lots of storage space.  
Antonia "Noni" Robinson 510.339.4700

**HAYWARD** \$525,000  
Comfortable 3 BR 3 BA Cozy stylish  
home with awesome views, hardwood  
floors & incredible updated kitchen.  
Spacious Living Room & Dining  
Room.  
Reva Tolbert 510-339-4700

**EMERYVILLE** \$450,000  
High-Rise Living. 1 BR 1 BA Light,  
Bright Condo with Dramatic  
Downtown SF and Golden Gate views!  
Pool and tennis too!  
Gene Della Maggiora 510.486.1495

## BY APPOINTMENTS

**RICHMOND** \$399,000  
Roomy 2 BR 1 BA Handyman special:  
lg, bright eat-in kit, DR, LR w/Frpl,  
sun-porch, pantry, 2-car grg.  
Zanna Knight 510.486.1495

## LOTS

**HAYWARD** \$5,000,000  
Hayward Hills. 16 Premium lots with  
views of the City, Bay and Castro  
Valley Hills.  
Gary Robinson 510.339.4700

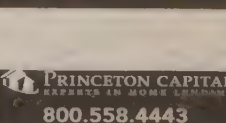
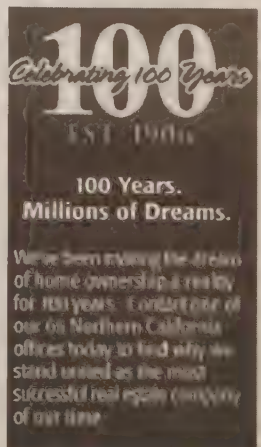
**OAKLAND** \$390,000  
Montclair bayview downslope.  
Ormindale Ct. at Elverton Dr. in area of  
premium newer homes.  
Peter Nicolopoulos 510.339.4700

**OAKLAND** \$379,000  
Plans and permits these two houses  
could be ready to build come April  
2006. Nice easy upslope lots with  
Canyon Views, great designs.  
David Eckert 510.339.4700

## COLDWELL BANKER

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Any time.  
Any where.

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## House hunting this weekend? Turn to Hills Newspapers Real Estate &amp; Home section first

REDWOOD  
HEIGHTS  
HILLS

\$729,000

OPEN 7 DAYS  
1-4 PM  
UNTIL SOLD!4751 FAIR AVE-OAKLAND  
-MLS #40136344

"WOW! Must see this fabulous spacious custom-crafted completely renovated Japanese-style home. Easy commute. Blocks to major freeways (13/580). Rustic country tree setting, but still in the City. Located in the lovely forested Redwood Heights Hills area of Oakland, CA. Beautiful Japanese fencing, three-quarter wrap-around decking and private Tahoe-like tree yards make this stunning Zen-like Japanese home great for indoor/outdoor living. Handcrafted fine detailing and charm throughout. State-of-the-art kitchen. Many, many brand new features: Roof, siding, windows, hardwood floors and ceilings plus much much more... 2 Bedrooms, 1 Bath, 5.5 spacious Rooms. Deep 6,600 sq ft lot for expansion potential. Full basement w/ 2nd bath.

CALL ROSE MARIE BERO AT 510-530-7390

FOR APPOINTMENT TO SEE THIS FABULOUS HOME

Open Sun 2- 4:30  
1866 Pleasant Valley

## One Half Block to Piedmont Avenue

Newly listed charmer with 2 bedrooms and 1 bath. Country kitchen with vintage Wedgwood stove, large separate breakfast room, light and airy living/dining combo. Move in condition with refinished floors, granite counters, fresh paint in/out. Major foundation repairs have been completed. Great landscaping with large and private rear yard, Separate 2 car garage.

Offered at \$679,500

BILL MILLER  
510 534-4500Prudential  
Landmark  
Real Estate

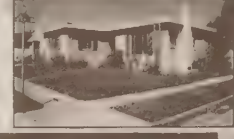
## 3 New Listing



1120 NORVELL CT., EL CERRITO  
#412 - Rambling ranch style home. Spacious living rm w/ fireplace and adjoining dining, large kitchen w/ eating space, gleaming hardwood floors, double garage on quiet cul-de-sac.



2328 CARQUINEZ AVE., EL CERRITO  
#023 - Gaze at the beautiful sunset, spectacular views of the Golden Gate Bridge, San Francisco city skyline & the Bay. This large home has a huge fam. room w/ wet bar, see all that this home has to offer.



CHARMING  
#247-280RM RANCH style home in desirable Annex location. Features spacious living room w/ fireplace, dining & gleaming old time floors. Sunny kitchen w/ white separate laundry, double doors.

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## Weekend OPEN HOMES

Open Sunday, unless otherwise indicated

www.contracostimes.com



Alameda	Alameda
\$325,000 1170 Ninth Street #14 1BD/1BA Sun 2-4 Kane & Associates Jason Byrley	\$649,000 1521 Minton 4BD/2BA Sat/Sun 2-4 Central 510-748-1148/748-1110 Gallagher & Lindsey Pacita Dimacali/Sonia Lastreto
\$335,000 1333 Webster St. A105 1BD/1BA Sun 2-4 West End 510-814-4865 Harbor Bay Realty Lena Sazo	\$660,000 776 Lincoln Avenue 2BD/1BA Sun 2-4 Central 510-748-1125 Gallagher & Lindsey Troy Staten
\$339,500 1305 Webster C-209 1BD/1BA Sun 1-4 510-303-2525 Alameda Realty Bette Barr	\$668,000 5 Sanderling Ct. 3BD/2.5BA Sat & Sun 1-4 West End 510-755-4003 Help-U-Sell Alameda Homes John Chang
\$389,000 325 Kitty Hawk Rd #213 2BD/1BA Sun 2-4 510-333-8897 Alameda Realty Eileen Walker	\$689,000 1718 Lafayette St. 3BD/2BA Sat/Sun 2-4 Central Alameda 510-814-4897/814-4887 Harbor Bay Realty Nancy Mach/Alex Mak
\$415,000 960 Shorepoint Ct. #111 2BD/2BA Sat/Sun 2-4 510-508-1215/846-1561 Kane & Associates J. McNulty/L. Marin	\$689,000 456 Pacific Ave. 2 Units Sun 2-4 West End 510-814-4884 Harbor Bay Realty Izabella Lipetski
\$420,000 1170 9th Street #17 1BD/1BA Sat/Sun 2-4 Gold Coast Edge 510-748-1148 Gallagher & Lindsey P. Dimacali	\$695,000 1512 Union St. 4BD/2BA Sun 2-4 510-769-1606 Bickley Real Estate John Bickley
\$425,000 1170 Ninth Street #36 1BD/1BA Sun 2-4 Kane & Associates Karen Manuel	\$699,000 1545 Santa Clara Ave. 3BD/2BA Sat & Sun 2-4 510-522-5827 Bayside Real Estate Phillip Kaake & Dianna Wyman
\$449,000 339 Broadway #101 2BD/1BA Sat & Sun 1-4 510-755-4003 Help-U-Sell Alameda Homes John Chang	\$699,000 1730 Eagle Ave. 5bd/3ba Open Sun 2-4pm 510-886-7086 Prudential LaTarsha Banks
\$515,000 617-A Pacific Ave. 2BD/1BA Sun 1-3:30 West End Cottage 510-813-6211 RVS Realty & Mortgage Kim Henderson	\$699,000 2430 Webb Ave. 3BD/2BA Sat 2-4 Alameda Realty 510-681-5249 Carol Knight
\$548,000 1813 Lincoln Ave. 2BD/1BA Sat/Sun 2-4 Central Alameda 510-304-8404 Harbor Bay Realty Lisa Horbeck	\$735,000 1202 Ballena Blvd 3BD/3BA Sun 2-4 West End 510-814-4875 Harbor Bay Realty Delride Dixon
\$548,000 1813 Lincoln Ave. 2BD/1BA Sat/Sun 2-4 Central Alameda 510-304-8404 Harbor Bay Realty Lisa Horbeck	\$739,000 2940 Lincoln Ave. 3BD/2BA Sat/Sun 2-4 Kane & Associates 510-919-6169/510-331-5480 Pat Colburn/Vickie Lim
\$549,000 1033 Via Bonita 3BD/2.5BA Sun 2-4 Bay Farm Island 510-914-3003 Harbor Bay Realty Steve Sorensen	\$749,000 305 Court St. 4BD/2.5BA Sun 2-4 East End 510-814-4857 Harbor Bay Realty Carol Kim
\$565,000 412 Marshall Way 3BD/2.5BA Sun 2-4 West End 510-814-4892 Harbor Bay Realty Eunice Edwards	\$759,000 67 Vista Rd. 3BD/2BA Sat/Sun 2-4 Harbor Bay Isle 510-814-4710 Harbor Bay Realty Walt Jacobs
\$575,000 3430 Camanoe Ln. 2BD/2BA Sat 2-4:30, Sun 1-4 510-387-3790, 510-522-5827 Bayside RE Colleen McFerrin & Dianna Wyman	\$778,000 609 Larchmont Isle 3BD/2BA Sat/Sun 2-4 Kane & Associates 510-483-1676 Krystyna Nowak
\$589,000 340 Lincoln Ave. 2BD/1BA Sat/Sun 2-4 West End 510-814-4859 / 814-4874 Harbor Bay Realty Karen Wellman/Mark Playsted	\$798,500 114 Fundy Bay 3BD/2.5BA Sat/Sun 2-4 Harbor Bay Isle 510-504-5091/504-5089 Harbor Bay Realty Barbara Bolton/Bill Playsted
\$595,000 1033 College Ave. 2BD/1BA Sat/Sun 2-4 East End 510-912-3214/504-5089 Harbor Bay Realty Janice Payne/Bill Douglas	\$799,000 1361 Eastshore Dr. 3BD/2.5BA Sun 2-4 Kane & Associates 510-522-2918 Renee & Rich Thomas
\$598,000 51 Garden Rd. 2BD/1BA Sat/Sun 2-4 Bay Farm Island 510-814-4872 Harbor Bay Realty Ginger Schuler	\$799,000 3119 Marina Dr. 2BD/2BA Sat/Sun 2-4 East End 510-814-4821 Harbor Bay Realty Elaine Millin
\$599,950 1110 Ironwood Rd. 2BD/2BA Sat & Sun 1-4 Bay Farm Island 510-755-4003 Help-U-Sell Alameda Homes John Chang	\$843,000 2813 Bayview Dr. 3BD/2.5BA Sun 2-4 Alameda Realty 510-506-2004 Jim Mangiapane
\$620,000 2170 Pacific Avenue 3bd/1ba Sat/Sun 2-4 Central 510-748-1148/748-1152 Gallagher & Lindsey P. Dimacali / Chih Wu	\$845,000 131 Diaplan Bay 3BD/2BA Sun 2-4 Kane & Associates 510-332-5683 Ron Martin
\$625,000 4 Courageous Ct. 2BD/2BA Sun 2-4 Kane & Associates 510-331-5480 Vickie Lim	\$890,000 1713-1715 9th Street two houses Sun 2-4 West End 510-748-1116/748-1158 Gallagher & Lindsey Alice Garvin/Tom Bennett
\$635,000 1210 Pacific Ave. 3BD/1BA Sun 2-4 510-523-0707 Panavista Realty Ramesh	\$929,000 134 Gainsborough Ct. 4bd/2+ba Open Sun 2-4:30 Lantern Bay 510-428-9290 Prudential Piedmont Aleso & Vickie

Alameda	Albany
\$939,000 33 Lawrence Rd. 4BD/3BA Sat/Sun 2-4 Harbor Bay Isle 510-506-9410 Harbor Bay Realty Darin Vinnali	\$950,000 1333 Weber St. 4BD/1.5BA Sun 2-4 510-769-1606 Bickley Real Estate John Bickley
\$1,195,000 1161 Bay St. 3BD/2.5BA Sun 2-4 510-523-2314/589-1908 Kane & Associates S. Rudloff/H. Fry	\$425,000 417 Evelyn #101 2bd/2ba Open Sun. 1-4 510-672-0719 Security Pacific Maggie Wang
\$578,000 925 Hillside 2BD/1.5BA Open Sun 2-4:30 Pacific Union Residential 510-338-1324 Roselle Woods	\$578,000 925 Hillside 2BD/1.5BA Open Sun 2-4:30 Pacific Union Residential 510-338-1324 Roselle Woods
\$599,000 1061 Cornell Ave. 2bd/1ba Open Sun 1-4:30 Red Oak Realty 510-280-2120 Jimmy Reina	\$720,000 904 Curtis Street 3BD/1.5BA Open Sun 2-4:30 The Grubb Co. 510-652-2333 Ford/Plowright

Berkeley	Berkeley
\$1,450,000 2826 Palm Court 5BD/4BA Open Sun 2-4:30 The Grubb Co. 510-652-2133 Bebe McRae	\$245,000 2550 Dana #5D 1BD/1BA Open Sun 2-4 Pacific Union Residential 510-338-1363 Leslie Easday
\$1,525,000 460 Vassar Ave 4+bd/2.5ba Open Sun 2-4:30 Red Oak Realty 510-486-1495 Izum Tada	\$450,000 1787 Oxford St. 1BD/1BA Open Sun 2-4 Coldwell Banker 510-486-1495 Zanna Knight
\$1,595,000 2945 Claremont Boulevard 4BD/2BA Open Sun 2-4:30 The Grubb Co. 510-339-0400 Steve Michaelides	\$499,500 1642 #1 Milvia 2bd/1ba Open Sat/Sun. 1-4 (Condo) 510-502-2063 Keller Williams Rayne Palmer
\$1,695,000 822 Santa Barbara 5BD/3.5BA Open Sun 2-4 Coldwell Banker 510-486-1495 Kathie Longinotti	\$559,000 842 Page St. 3+bd/1ba Open Sun 1-4 Ocean View 510-527-5741 Re/Max Executive Anne Foreman
\$1,775,000 890 Grizzly Peak Boulevard 4BD/3.5BA Open Sun 2-4:30 The Grubb Co. 510-652-2133 Bebe McRae	\$565,000 1807 Chestnut St. 2bd/2ba Open Sun 2-5 Marvin Gardens 510-527-700x28 Diane Mintz
\$2,150,000 2944 Avalon Avenue 6BD/5.5BA Open Sun 2-4:30 The Grubb Co. 510-652-2133 Ford/Plowright	\$615,000 2012B Hearst Ave 2bd/1.5ba Open Sun 2-4 Red Oak Realty 510-280-2140 Barbara Hendrickson
\$729,000 7548 Odyssey 3+bd/2.5ba Open Sun 1-4pm Prudential 510-610-1012 Dennis Millard	\$639,000 1618 Cornell Ave 3bd/2ba Open Sun 2-4:30 Prudential 510-428-0900 Judith Glass/Sheila Sabine
\$859,000 5303 Asterwood 3bd/3ba Open Sat/Sun. 2-4 Coldwell Banker Bartels 510-334-1355 Brett Stratton	\$650,000 1208 Rose St 2bd/2ba Open Sun 2-4pm Marvin Gardens 510-524-0800 Gloria Polanski
\$435,000 6806 Gladys Ave. 1BD/1BA Open Sun 2-4 Coldwell Banker 510-486-1495 Kim & Barbara Marienthal	\$675,000 1741 Allston Way 3bd/1ba Open Sun 2-4:30 Red Oak Realty 510-280-2159 Maura Allen
\$450,000 702 Seaview Dr 2bd/1ba Open Sun 2-4 Marvin Gardens 510-527-9111 Mary Gray/Mayak Larkins	\$695,000 1206 Stannage Ave 4bd/2+ba Open Sun 2-4:30pm Westbrae 510-868-1487 Prudential Berkeley Barbara Reynolds
\$565,000 1120 Norvell Ct 3bd/1ba Open Sun 2-4:30 Coldwell Banker Bartels 510-292-7041 Stephanie Mewha	\$725,000 1321 Ordway 2BD/1BA Open Sun 2-4:30 Pacific Union Residential 510-338-1341 Leslie Avant
\$589,000 8514 Terrace Dr. 2BD/1BA Open Sun 1-4 Coldwell Banker 510-486-1495 Gene Della Maggiora	\$750,000 3420 Dwight Way 2+bd/1.5ba Open Sun 2-4:30 The Grubb Co. 510-652-2133 The Ratcliffes
\$699,000 545 Colusa Ave 3bd/2ba Open Sat/Sun. 2-4 Herth Real Estate 415-861-522x350 Constance McGinnis	\$760,000 755 Keeler Avenue 3BD/2BA Open Sun 2-4:30 The Grubb Co. 510-652-2133 Diane Verducci
\$735,000 1659 Arlington Rd. 4BD/1.5BA Open Sun 1:30-4:30 Alain Pinel Realtors 510-899-9000 Ron Reece	\$769,000 1628 Bancroft Way 3BD/2BA Open Sun 2-4:30 Pacific Union Residential 510-338-1347 Rich Gould
\$795,000 2328 Carquinez Ave 4bd/2ba Open Sun 1-4 Coldwell Banker Bartels 510-748-1196 Christopher Chenault	\$775,000 1235 Cornell Ave. 4BD/2BA Open Sun 2-4 Coldwell Banker 510-486-1495 Diana Kay
\$799,000 2520 Tulare Avenue 3BD/3BA Open Sun 2-4:30 The Grubb Co. 510-339-0400 Tunney/Frasetto	\$899,000 130 Latham Lane 3BD/2BA Open Sun 2-4:30 The Grubb Co. 510-652-2133 Jones/Schevill
\$850,000 7238 Cutting Boulevard 3BD/2BA Open Sun 2-4:30 The Grubb Co. 510-652-2133 Helene Barlin	\$899,000 2439 10th St. Triplex Open Sun 1-4:30 Red Oak Realty 510-280-2108 Robln Kingsbury
\$910,000 6701-03 Blake Street 2 Houses Sat 2-4 Arlington Estate 510-748-1189 Gallagher & Lindsey Jim Collins	\$995,000 515 Cragmont 3BD/2.5BA Open Sun 2-4:30 Pacific Union Residential 510-338-1345 Bob & Carolyn Nelson
\$910,000 6701-03 Blake Street 2 Houses Sat 2-4 Arlington Estate 510-748-1189 Gallagher & Lindsey Jim Collins	\$1,350,000 89 Southampton Ave 3+bd/2.5ba Sun 2-4:30 Thornwall Properties 510-848-1950x240 Colleen Larkin
\$910,000 6701-03 Blake Street 2 Houses Sat 2-4 Arlington Estate 510-748-1189 Gallagher & Lindsey Jim Collins	\$1,425,000 951 Alvarado Rd. 3BD/2.5BA Open Sun 1-4 Pacific Union GMAC 925-271-4885 Jeannie Anderson
\$910,000 6701-03 Blake Street 2 Houses Sat 2-4 Arlington Estate 510-748-1189 Gallagher & Lindsey Jim Collins	\$1,448,000 7112 Marlborough Terrace 3BD/3.5BA Open Sun 2-4:30 Claremont Hills 510-339-9290 Prudential Heidi Marchesotti

Berkeley	Berkeley
\$1,450,000 2826 Palm Court 5BD/4BA Open Sun 2-4:30 The Grubb Co. 510-652-2133 Bebe McRae	\$1,525,000 460 Vassar Ave 4+bd/2.5ba Open Sun 2-4:30 Red Oak Realty 510-486-1495 Izum Tada
\$1,595,000 2945 Claremont Boulevard 4BD/2BA Open Sun 2-4:30 The Grubb Co. 510-339-0400 Steve Michaelides	\$1,695,000 822 Santa Barbara 5BD/3.5BA Open Sun 2-4 Coldwell Banker 510-486-1495 Kathie Longinotti
\$1,775,000 890 Grizzly Peak Boulevard 4BD/3.5BA Open Sun 2-4:30 The Grubb Co. 510-652-2133 Bebe McRae	\$2,150,000 2944 Avalon Avenue 6BD/5.5BA Open Sun 2-4:30 The Grubb Co. 510-652-2133 Ford/Plowright
\$729,000 7548 Odyssey 3+bd/2.5ba Open Sun 1-4pm Prudential 510-610-1012 Dennis Millard	\$859,000 5303 Asterwood 3bd/3ba Open Sat/Sun. 2-4 Coldwell Banker Bartels 510-334-1355 Brett Stratton

El Cerrito	El Cerrito
\$435,000 6806 Gladys Ave. 1BD/1BA Open Sun 2-4 Coldwell Banker 510-486-1495 Kim & Barbara Marienthal	\$450,000 702 Seaview Dr 2bd/1ba Open Sun 2-4 Marvin Gardens 510-527-9111 Mary Gray/Mayak Larkins
\$565,000 1120 Norvell Ct 3bd/1ba Open Sun 2-4:30 Coldwell Banker Bartels 510-292-7041 Stephanie Mewha	\$589,000 8514 Terrace Dr. 2BD/1BA Open Sun 1-4 Coldwell Banker 510-486-1495 Gene Della Maggiora
\$699,000 545 Colusa Ave 3bd/2ba Open Sat/Sun. 2-4 Herth Real Estate 415-861-522x350 Constance McGinnis	\$735,000 1659 Arlington Rd. 4BD/1.5BA Open Sun 1:30-4:30 Alain Pinel Realtors 510-899-9000 Ron Reece
\$795,000 2328 Carquinez Ave 4bd/2ba Open Sun 1-4 Coldwell Banker Bartels 510-748-1196 Christopher Chenault	\$799,000 2520 Tulare Avenue 3BD/3BA Open Sun 2-4:30 The Grubb Co. 510-339-0400 Tunney/Frasetto
\$850,000 7238 Cutting Boulevard 3BD/2BA Open Sun 2-4:30 The Grubb Co. 510-652-2133 Helene Barlin	\$910,000 6701-03 Blake Street 2 Houses Sat 2-4 Arlington Estate 510-748-1189 Gallagher & Lindsey Jim Collins
\$910,000 6701-03 Blake Street 2 Houses Sat 2-4 Arlington Estate 510-748-1189 Gallagher & Lindsey Jim Collins	\$910,000 6701-03 Blake Street 2 Houses Sat 2-4 Arlington Estate 510-748-1189 Gallagher & Lindsey Jim Collins

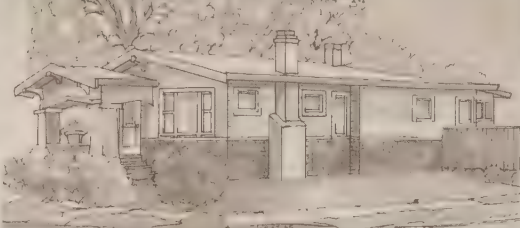
Livermore	Livermore
\$644,500 1051 Lynn St 4bd Open Sun 1-4 Coldwell Banker Bartels 510-748-1196 Michaelides	\$278,000 2586 Foothill Blvd, #G 3BD Open Sun 2-4:30 Oakland 510-594-7481 Alain Pinel Realtors Heidi K...
\$299,000 642 Beacon Street #3 1BD Open Sun 2-4:30 Alain Pinel Realtors 510-486-1495 Sarah Se...	\$325,000 407 Orange St. #311 1bd Open Sun 2-5 Adams Pt. 510-486-1495 Prudential Grand Lake Loh...
\$329,000 720 H. Canyon Oaks 1bd Open Sun 2-4:30 Pacific Union Residential 510-338-1324 Kathy...	\$339,000+ 7316 - 7322 Nye Ave. 4bd Sat/Sun 1-4 Upr. Eastmont 510-748-1168/748-1169 Gallagher & Lindsey Kirk Knight / Whit...
\$349,000 250 Montecito Avenue #205 1bd Open Sun 2-4:30 Adams Point 510-531-7000 Wells & Bennett Realtors Patsy L...	\$375,000 1169 78th Avenue 2BD Sat 2-4 Gallagher & Lindsey Inc. 510-486-1495 Ignacio Arechiga
\$389,000 3800 Maybelle Ave. #12 2bd Sat & Sun 1-4 Keller Williams 510-334-1355 Brett Stratton	\$399,000 2091 39th Ave. 2bd Open Sun 2-4:30 Pacific Union Residential 510-338-1324 Lee Lee...
\$399,000 371 30th St 1bd Open Sun 12-5 Pili Hill 510-486-1495 Elena Stone, R.E. Broker	\$399,000 4501 Howe St. #1 2bd Open Sun 2-4:30 Piedmont Ave 925-241-8888 Prudential CA Realty Nami...
\$415,000 3825 High St. #110 1bd Sun 2-5pm Prudential 510-486-1495 Anne B...	\$415,000 425 Orange St. #217 1bd Open Sun 2-4:30 Assist-2-Sell 510-338-1324 John...
\$419,000 425 E. 11th St. #24 1bd Open Sat/Sun 12-5 East Lake 510-547-0707 Lawton Associates Ter...	\$438,000 1444 E. 31st Street 2bd Open Sun 2-4:30 Wells & Bennett Realtors 510-531-7000 Traci...
\$439,000 350 Perkins Street #206 2bd Open Sun 2-4:30 Adams Point 510-531-7000 Wells & Bennett Realtors Ter...	\$445,000 1563 78th Avenue 3bd Sun 2-4:30 Eastmont 510-531-7000 Gallagher & Lindsey Inc. Rolando & Coqui...
\$448,900 2315 64th Ave 1bd Sun 2-4:30 Havenscourt Prudential Montclair 510-486-1495 Dolores...	\$456,000+ 3220-3234 Linden St Open Sun 2-4 (8 Townhomes) Red Oak Realty 510-338-1324 John...
\$459,000 1124 Hollywood #2 2bd Open Sun 2-4:30 Montclair 510-338-1324 Better Homes Montclair Nami...	\$465,000 46 Spy Glass H1 1bd Open Sun 2-4:30 Hiller Highlands 510-486-1495 Coldwell Banker Peter Nic...
\$479,000 425 E. 11th St. #18 1bd Open Sat/Sun 12-5 East Lake 510-547-0707 Lawton Associates Ter...	\$479,000 4843 Fairfax Ave 1bd Open Sun 1-4 Maxwell Park Prudential 510-486-1495 Ami...
\$485,000 22 Moss Ave. #311 1bd Open Sun 2-4:30 Rose Garden 510-486-1495 Pacific Union Residential Loh...	\$498,000 325 Vernon Street #401 1bd Open Sun 2-4:30 Adams Point 510-531-7000 The Grubb Co. Angela W...
\$499,000 1742 12th Avenue 1bd Open Sun 2-4:30 East Oakland 510-531-7000 Wells & Bennett Realtors Ter...	\$515,000 3250 Coolidge Ave 1bd Open Sun 2-4:30 Prudential Montclair 510-486-1495 Gene...
\$519,000 425 E. 11th St. #5 1bd Open Sat/Sun 12-5 East Lake 925-547-0707 Lawton Associates Ter...	



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## RED OAK REALTY

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**4301 BROOKDALE AVENUE, OAKLAND**

Wonderful 1918 Craftsman. This 2 bedroom, 1 bath house has new foundation, furnace & electrical. Laundry and porch plus room. LISTED AT \$450,000

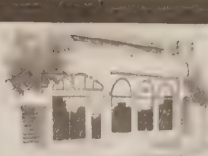
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**Marc Guay, Realtor®**

DIRECT: 510-280-2103 EMAIL: marc@redoakrealty.com

### Mixed Use

3721 Grand Ave., Oakland



This mixed use property includes 2 retail spaces, an office in a separate cottage, and two apartments. The apartments are a one bedroom and a spacious 2 bedroom. The retail space has a fireplace and a high beamed ceiling. Perfect for an owner user who may want to live in one of the apartments.

**Anne Bruff** \$1,300,000  
510 594 7455 ext. 200

### Miller Warnecke Fourplex

460-462 Merritt, Oakland



Classic building, perfect for pied-a-terre, investment, family compound. Large units, ranging up to 1700 sq. ft., with hardwood floors, Georgian fireplaces, formal dining rooms, breakfast rooms, views. Oversized lot has beautiful mature landscaping. Units have walk-in closets, off-street parking and extra storage. Designed by Miller Warnecke.

**Anne Bruff** \$1,695,000  
510 594 7455 ext. 200

### Condo/Townhouse

2586 Frithall Blvd., Apt. G, Oakland

Spacious two-story, 3 Bedroom, 1.5 Bath Condo in a secured, private, 15-year-old building. Off-street parking, in-unit washer & dryer, wall-to-wall carpeting, newer paint.

**Heldi Kearsley** Price to sell \$278,000  
510 594-7455, ext. 204

**ANNE BRUFF**  
ASSOCIATES

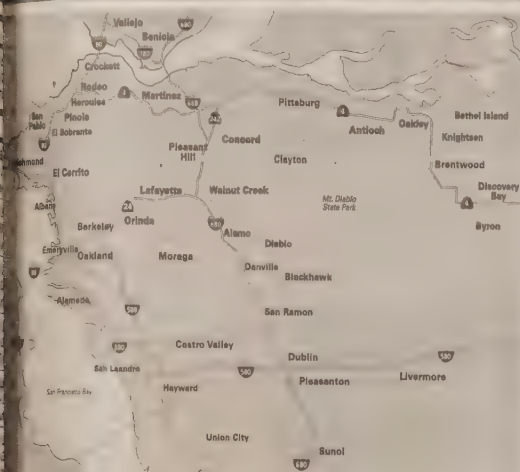
510 594 7455

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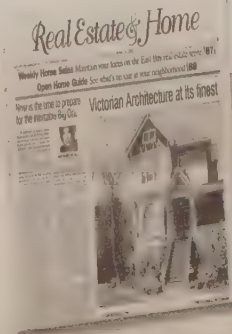


Oakland	Oakland
4534 Allendale 2+BD/1.5BA Open Sun 2-4:30 Maxwell Park 510-531-7000 x228 Kate Phillips	3027 Roxbury Ave 4bd/2ba Open Sun 2-4:30 Sheffield Village Prudential Montclair David Otero
646 58th St 2+bd/1ba Tomesca/No. Berkeley 510-524-9888 x33 Bill & Tracy	3058 MacArthur Blvd DUPLEX Open Sun 2-4:30 Montclair Better Homes A.D. Nassiri
96 Montell 1BD/1BA Open Sun 2-4:30 Piedmont Ave. 510-338-1316 Joan Dark	4520 Fairbairn 3+bd/1+ba Open Sun 2-4:30 Maxwell Park 510-868-1487 Prudential Barbara Reynolds
2821 25th Ave 3BD/1BA Open Sun 2-4:30 Upper Fruitvale 510-451-7317 x25 Michael Valva	884-886 Arlington BD/BA Open Sun 2-4:30 Coldwell Banker Gary Robinson
3469 Coolidge 3BD/2BA Open Sun 2-4:30 Diamond 510-531-7000 x235 Frank Hennefer	8009 Michigan Ave 3bd/3ba Open Sun 1-4 Oakland Hills 510-834-2010 CP Yang
6138 Outlook Ave. 3 BD/1.5 BA Open Sun 2-4:30 Lindsey & Lindsey, Inc.	535 Belgrave #2B 2BD/2BA Open Sun 2-4:30 Pacific Union Residential Martha Holstlaw
1435 MacArthur Blvd. 2 BD/1 BA Open Sun 2-4:30 Donnaluci Williams	668 Alcatraz St. 3+BD/2+BA Open Sat 1-4:30 North Oakland Bickley Real Estate John Bickley
2126 41st Avenue 2BD/1.25 BA Open Sun 2-4:30 Fruitvale 510-748-1131 Ms. Sam McDowell	919-921 Mandala Pkwy 3bd/1ba Open Sun 2-4 (Duplex) Red Oak Realty Merritt Levine
3214 Millsview Ave 3BD/1BA Open Sun 2-4:30 Maxwell Park 510-531-7000 x228 Kate Phillips	2841 Octavia St 4-Plex Open Sun 1-4 Red Oak Realty Robin Gaskins
3624 Wisconsin 2BD/1BA Open Sun 2-4:30 Laurel 510-338-1367 Carla Buffington	6815 Gunn Dr 3bd/2ba Open Sun 1-4 Montclair 510-339-9290 Dresser & Garfinkle
2921 Monticello Avenue 3BD/1BA Open Sun 2-4:30 Michael Friedman	5115-17 Manila 2 Houses Open Sun 2-4:30 Rockridge 510-338-1302 Pacific Union Residential Nancy Moore
7971 Sanford St 3bd/1ba Open Sun 2-4:30 Marylou Martin	3993 Oak Hill Rd. 4BD/3BA Sun 1-4 Sequoy Heights Help-U-Sell Action Properties Theresa Herget
963 21st St 4bd/2ba Open Sun 1:30-4 Oakland Realty	972 Aileen Avenue 3+BD/2+BA Open Sun 2-4:30 The Grubb Co. Ruth Frassetto
4026 West St. 3BD/2BA Open Sun 1:30-4:30 Gregg Lustig	4033 Lyman 3BD/2BA Open Sun 2-4:30 Oakmore 510-339-4700 Coldwell Banker D. Diamantine/L. Bostick
7008 Spencer St. # A,B,C 3 units Open Sun 1-4 Desiray McFall	6573 Chelton 3BD/2BA Open Sat & Sun 2-4:30 Coldwell Banker Ruby Kg
2440 Wilbur Street 2BD/1BA Open Sun 1-4 Constance R. Hughart	6629 Chelton 4BD/2BA Open Sun 2-5 Coldwell Banker T. Kulka/B. Hardacre
3251 Florida St 3bd/2ba Open Sat 2-4:30 Laurel A.D. Nassiri	4106 Laurel Avenue 3BD/2BA Open Sun 2-4:30 Redwood Heights The Grubb Co. Mavis Delacroix
3822 Whittle Ave. 2BD/1BA Open Sun 1-4 Rhonda Povlak	5334 Broadway 3+bd/1+ba Open Sun 2-4:30 Rockridge Montclair Better Homes Tom Watson
3652 Harbor View 3BD/1BA Open Sun 2-4:30 Upper Laurel Cindy Houts	6400 Estates Drive 3BD/2BA Open Sun 2-4:30 Piedmont/Montclair The Grubb Co. Debra Dryden
3800 Elston 3BD/3BA Open Sun 2-4:30 Pacific Union Residential T. Carlisle/C. Downer	3515 Butters 3BD/2BA Open Sun 2-4:30 Joaquin Miller Pacific Union Residential Donna Costella
3915 Patterson Ave. 3 BD/2 BA Open Sun 1-4 Laurel Heights John Chang	4242 Norton Ave 3+bd/2.5ba Open Sun 1-4 Redwood Heights Prudential Mary Dresser

Oakland	Piedmont
\$799,000 4342 Leach Ave. 4BD/2BA Open Sun 2-4:30 Glenview 510-338-1370 Pacific Union Residential Erika Celestre	\$929,000 201 Park Way 2BD/2BA Open Sat/Sun 2-5 J. P. Motto Co 415-637-4583 Broker
\$799,000 4755 Geranium Place 4BD/3BA Open Sun 1-4 Intero Real Estate 925-963-3644 Shahin Saki	\$1,095,000 130 Highland Avenue 3BD/3BA Open Sun 2-4:30 The Grubb Co. 510-339-0400 Anlan Pettit Tunney
\$815,000 4614 Geranium Pl 4bd/3ba Open Sun 2-4:30 Redwood Heights 510-913-3131 Nakamura Realty Steve Yoshimura	\$1,150,000 424 El Cerrito 3+BD/2BA Open Sun 2-4:30 Pacific Union Residential G. Cornell/K. Callahan
\$829,000 575 Kenmore 3BD/2BA Open Sun 1-4pm Service First Real Estate 510-444-8544 Christy Brock	\$1,250,000 314 Jerome Avenue 3BD/2BA Open Sun 2-4:30 The Grubb Co. 510-339-0400 Linda McClain
\$829,000 865 Sunnyside Road 3BD/1BA Open Sun 2-4:30 Crocker Highlands 510-339-0400 The Grubb Co. 510-338-1306 Judy Cain	\$1,350,000 231 Bonita 4BD/2+BA Open Sun 2-4:30 Pacific Union Residential Debi Fitzgerald
\$889,000 715 Arimo Ave 3+bd/1.5ba Open Sun 2-4:30 Crocker Highlands 510-339-4567 Montclair Better Homes Rosie Kysaether	\$1,425,000 24 York Dr 3bd/2ba Open Sun 2-4:30 Better Homes Montclair 510-338-4280 Mary Jane McConville
\$875,000 96 Monte Cresta 3BD/3BA Open Sun 2-4:30 Piedmont Ave. 510-338-1357 Pacific Union Residential Francis Heath	\$1,595,000 432 Scenic 4BD/3BA Sat & Sun 2-4:30 Pacific Union Residential J. Strauch/S. Gallagher
\$879,000 2630 Carlsbrook Dr 4bd/3ba Open Sun 2-4:30 Montclair Prudential Piedmont Aleso & Vickie	\$1,795,000 501 Scenic Avenue 4BD/3.5BA Open Sun 2-4:30 Keller Williams Realty 925-984-4854 Pedro and Kathy
\$885,000 6900 Thornhill Dr 3BD/3BA Open Sun 2-5 Montclair 510-287-2383 Valva Realty Co. Paul Valva	\$1,995,000 27 Mulr Avenue 4BD/4.5BA Open Sun 2-4:30 The Grubb Co. 510-339-0400 Mindy Scott
\$889,500 6833 Moore Drive 3BD/3BA Open Sun 2-4:30 Montclair 510-531-7000 x235 Wells & Bennett Realtors Frank Hennefer	\$2,285,000 191 Sandringham Road 5BD/3.5BA Open Sun 2-4:30 The Grubb Co. 510-339-0400 Helen Burt
\$895,000 6330 Chelton 4BD/2BA Open Sun 2-4:30 Montclair 510-339-4700 Coldwell Banker Joan Duffield	\$2,690,000 22 Mesa Avenue 5BD/3BA Open Sun 2-4:30 The Grubb Co. 510-339-0400 Anlan Tunney & Jean Simmons
\$899,000 534385345 Boyd Ave. 4BD/2BA Sun 1-4:30 (Duplex) Rockridge 510-849-9900 Maison Nouveau Annalise Demuth	\$359,000 352 S. 23rd St 3bd/1ba Open Sun 2-4 Prudential Berkeley 510-734-4997 Amy Davis
\$915,000 777 Trestle Glen Rd. 4BD/1.5BA Sun 1:30-4:30 Crocker Highlands 510-835-6080 Prudential Dolores Thom	\$425,000 6046 Arlington Blvd 1+bd/1ba Open Sun 2-4:30 Richmond View 510-339-9290 Prudential Lucretia Jacobs
\$985,000 305 MacArthur 4-Plex Open Sun 2-4 Adams Point 510-338-1307 Pacific Union Residential Jeffrey Himmel	\$465,000 1522 Merced St 2bd/1ba Sun 2-4 Marvin Gardens 510-527-9111 Mary Gray & Mykah Larkins
\$1,075,000 2060 Manzanita 4bd/4ba Open Sun 2-4:30 Montclair 510-338-1307 Montclair Better Homes Mary Jane McConville	\$479,000 3527 Cerrito Ave 2bd/1ba Sun 2-4 Marvin Gardens 510-524-0800 Darrell Hoh
\$1,150,000 2220 Arrowhead Dr. 4bd/4+ba Open Sun 2-4:30 Montclair 510-339-4550 Better Homes Montclair Nahid Nassiri	
\$1,160,000 6655 Sobrante Rd. 3BD/2.5BA Sat & Sun 2-4:30 Montclair 510-339-4700 Coldwell Banker David Eckert	
\$1,199,000 260 Park View Ter. 4-Plex Open Sun 2-4 Adams Point 510-338-1307 Pacific Union Residential Jeffrey Himmel	
\$1,399,000 175 Villanova Dr. 4BD/3.5BA Open Sun 1-4:30 Coldwell Banker 510-339-4700 Donna Conroy	
\$1,425,000 2100 Arrowhead 4BD/2.5BA Open Sun 1:30-4:30 Montclair 510-339-4700 Coldwell Banker Ellen Lancaster	
\$1,674,000 5801 Buena Vista Avenue 4BD/3.5BA Open Sun 2-4:30 Upper Rockridge 510-339-0400 The Grubb Co. Elizabeth Dickson	
\$1,695,000 1754 Manzanita Dr 4bd/3.5ba Open Sun 2-4:30 Montclair Hills 510-339-9290 Prudential Montclair Leah Younger	
\$1,995,000 12363 Skyline Blvd. 5BD/5BA Open Sun 2-4:30 Oakland Hills 510-410-4917 ERA Home Traditions Fred Brown	

Oakley	Orinda
\$429,900 613 Country Lane 3bd/2+ba Open Sun 1-4 Red Oak Realty 510-286-2166 Julie Cuellos	\$1,095,000 35 La Cuesta Rd. 4BD/2BA Open Sun 1-4 Coldwell Banker 510-547-1615/925-253-4601 Jerilyn Babington
Piedmont	
\$599,000 4336-38 Howe St 3bd/2ba Open Sun 2-4:30 (2 Units) Better Homes Montclair 510-339-4000 Arnold Mueller	
\$669,000 365 Warwick 3BD/1+BA Open Sun 2-4:30 Pacific Union Residential 510-338-1335 Michelle Miller	
\$875,000 124 Ronada 2+bd/1+BA Sat & Sun 2-4:30 Pacific Union Residential 510-338-1303 Wendy Gardner-Ferrari	

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## ALAMEDA



**2170 PACIFIC AVENUE \$620,000**  
**Central Alameda Open Sat & Sun 2-4**  
 California Bungalow, 3 bedroom, 1 bath + bonus room. Formal living/dining areas, upgraded kitchen & bath. Parquet/Pergo floors, plantation shutters and double pane windows.  
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**Pacita Dimacali 510-748-1148**  
**Chih Wu 510-748-1162**



**1521 MINTURN \$649,000**  
**Central Alameda Open Sat & Sun 2-4**  
 Victorian on historical study list. 4 bedroom, 2 bath home + bonus rooms. Newly refinished hardwood floors, upgraded kitchen & baths. Full basement, 1 car garage & new roof.  
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**Pacita Dimacali 510-748-1148**  
**Sonia Lastreto 510-748-1110**



**1170 9th STREET #17 \$420,000**  
**Gold Coast Edge Open Sat & Sun 2-4**  
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**776 LINCOLN AVENUE \$660,000**  
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**Anne DeBardeleben 510-748-1175**  
**Justine Francis 510-748-1164**



**1533 LAFAYETTE STREET \$998,000**  
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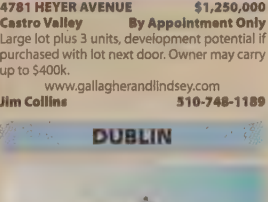
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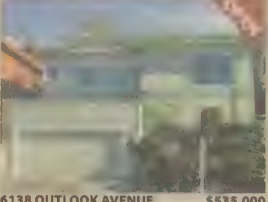
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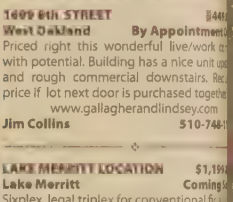
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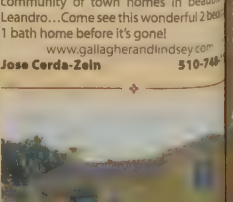
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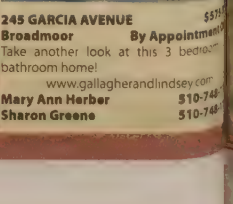
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## Around the horn

### Logjam at the top

■ With the 0-0 tie between St. Mary's and Piedmont on Monday, there is a logjam at the top of the Bay Shore Athletic League girls soccer standings. Entering play on Wednesday, Berean Christian (9-0-3, 30 points) held first place by one point over Piedmont (9-0-2, 29) and four points over St. Mary's (8-2-2, 26). Berean Christian faced St. Mary's on Wednesday (results were not available at press time) and a showdown with Piedmont is scheduled for Monday.

— Phil Jensen

### Flood, McGee to be honored

■ Willie McGee and the late Curt Flood, East Bay high school baseball stars who went on to further fame as center fielders for the St. Louis Cardinals, will be inducted into the African-American/Ethnic Sports Hall of Fame at the Hyatt Regency in San Jose on Feb. 10. Festivities begin at 6:30 p.m. with dinner at 7:30. Flood, who died in 1997 at 59, challenged baseball's reserve clause in 1970. McGee, who served as an assistant coach at Contra Costa College, and with a childhood friend started the Willie McGee Foundation, which provides scholarships and community outreach to a variety of athletic, educational and cultural programs. Other inductees will be NFL lineman Lincoln Kennedy, NFL Hall of Famer John Henry Johnson, tennis champion Don Johnson, track and field stars Gene Johnson and Irene Obera and San Jose State boxing and judo coaches Julius Menendez and Hoshihiro Uchida. Seven community service awards also will be presented. Among the recipients will be longtime basketball coach Ben Tapscoff. For tickets or information, contact LaNiece Jones at 510-568-5899 or lajpr@aol.com. Or visit afrosportshall.com. Seating is limited and early ticket purchase is suggested.

— Mike McGreehan

### Track club needs help

■ The C.A. Track Club, an Oakland-based nonprofit organization that offers athletes 10-18 a chance to compete in track and field, is looking for sponsors and participants. Members of the club will compete in the Silver State Open in Reno on Saturday and the Simplot Games in Pocatello, Idaho, Feb. 16-18. Those wishing to sponsor, donate goods or service, or to join as athletes should call or e-mail club founder Jamal Cooks at 510-708-0344 or jamalcooks@aol.com.

— Mike McGreehan

### 'BaseBall' players needed

■ Bay Area Vintage Base Ball is looking for players to form a team in the East Bay. The league plays baseball under the rules and customs of 1886, complete with replica uniforms. Players should be between the ages of 18-50. The league also is looking for umpires of any age. Log on to the league's Web site at www.bavbb.com or call 408-378-1872.

— Mike McGreehan

### On deck

■ Girls basketball, Pinole Valley vs. El Cerrito at Lovonya DeJean Middle School, Richmond, tonight, 7:30 p.m. — Two of the top teams in the Bay Area battle tonight. At press time, Pinole Valley is ranked No. 1 in the Contra Costa Newspapers girls poll, and El Cerrito is ranked No. 2.

■ Girls soccer, Alameda at El Cerrito, Tuesday, 5:30 p.m. — Both teams need to win this game to stay close to Alameda Contra Costa Athletic League leader Berkeley.

■ Boys soccer, St. Mary's at Piedmont, Monday, 5:30 p.m. — A 3-0 loss to Kennedy knocked the Highlanders out of first place in the BSAL. However, they started off the week with a 3-1 nonleague win over Encinal. St. Mary's began the week in fourth place in the BSAL.

■ Girls basketball, Albany at Piedmont, Tuesday, 7 p.m. — Piedmont recovered nicely from its loss against St. Mary's with a 68-55 victory at St. Patrick-St. Vincent. The Highlanders followed that with an impressive 63-18 rout over Kennedy. It appears the Highlanders, Bruins and Panthers will fight it out for the league title. Albany (4-2 BSAL) has a hold on fourth place.

■ Boys basketball, Alameda at Encinal, — Tuesday, 7 p.m. — Last season, the Hornets and Jets split their two ACCAL meetings with each team winning on its opponents home floor. Entering today, Alameda is 1-4 in league, while Encinal is 0-5.

■ Boys basketball, St. Joseph Notre Dame at Kennedy, tonight, 7 p.m. — The Pilots have won two straight since dropping a 50-49 overtime decision to Bay Shore Athletic League leader Salesian on Jan. 18. The Eagles were expected to contend for the BSAL title this year but are off to a 3-3 start in league play, including a 58-57 loss to Piedmont on Tuesday.

■ Girls soccer, Berkeley at Encinal, Tuesday, 5 p.m. — The Jets can give themselves a boost in the ACCAL standings with a win over the Yellow Jackets, who are unbeaten at 8-0-1 in league as of Wednesday. Encinal is 5-2-2 in league and 1-0-1 in its past two games as of Wednesday.

### Stars of the week

■ Rob Riccardi, St. Mary's boys soccer — Riccardi scored the game-winning goal at the 79th minute to lift the Panthers to a 1-0 victory over Albany.

■ Haley Geller, Berkeley girls soccer — Geller scored the eventual game-winning goal at the fourth minute of the Yellow Jackets' 2-0 win over Alameda.

■ Greg Brizendine, El Cerrito boys basketball — Brizendine scored 21 points in the Gauchos' 63-55 win over Alameda.

■ Chazny Morris, Piedmont girls basketball — Morris scored 23 points in a 68-55 BSAL victory at St. Patrick-St. Vincent.

■ Doug Jordan, Piedmont boys basketball — Jordan scored 16 points and pulled down nine rebounds in the Highlanders' 58-57 league win at Kennedy.

# El Cerrito cuts it close



EL CERRITO'S Shonetta Crain-Williams drives against Oakland Tech on Saturday. On Tuesday, her 3-point half-court shot at the end of regulation helped the Gauchos pull out an overtime victory over Alameda.

TUE NAM TON/STAFF

## Gauchos win two in OT, to face Pinole in key game

By Robert Jordan  
STAFF WRITER

The El Cerrito High School girls basketball team has made the flair for dramatics a habit in its last three games.

It is one tendency coach Ron Williams hopes the team breaks quickly with undefeated Pinole Valley visiting today.

The Gauchos' Shonetta Crain-Williams hit a half-court 3-pointer with no time remaining to send their game with Alameda into overtime on Tuesday at Lovonya DeJean Middle School in Richmond.

Myleka Emerson keyed El Cerrito (16-1, 5-0 Alameda Contra Costa Athletic League) in overtime with nine of the Gauchos' 12 points to help them win by two points, 68-66.

"If we come to play the way we are supposed to play and it is a close game so be it," said Williams, whose team survived 39 turnovers in a win over Oakland Tech on Saturday and needed overtime to beat Hercules last Friday. "But we are not playing well."

El Cerrito trailed by as many as 10 points in the fourth quarter, but capitalized on five fourth-quarter turnovers by Alameda and the Hornets' 0-for-3 free-throw shooting.

The Hornets struggles set up Crain-Williams half-court heave. "I was just thinking 'don't lose this game,'" said Crain-Williams, who also hit a half-court shot right before halftime against Oakland Tech. "We need to focus and pick up our intensity."

The Gauchos will need plenty of focus against Pinole Valley.

The Spartans enter the game 16-0, including 5-0 in the ACCAL, and are ranked No. 1 in the Contra Costa Newspapers prep girls poll.

"I think we have been slacking," Crain-Williams said. "Before we used to kill teams and

See EL CERRITO, Page 2



ALAMEDA'S Emily Beyerlian (16) and Berkeley's Theresa Henle race for the ball.

SHERRY LAVARS/STAFF

## Berkeley shows who's the boss

### ■ Yellow Jackets shut out Alameda in a battle of unbeaten ACCAL teams

By Mike McGreehan  
STAFF WRITER

The Alameda and Berkeley high school girls soccer teams both were undefeated in Alameda Contra Costa Athletic League play entering their showdown at Berkeley on Jan. 19. The similarities quickly ended there, however, as the Yellow Jackets dominated most of the play in a 2-0 win.

Berkeley (10-3-3, 8-0-1 ACCAL) started quickly and controlled the tempo throughout an impressive first half. The Yellow Jackets were the more poised squad and had the better grasp of how to play on their AstroTurf-covered home field.

"I think you always feel good about playing at home," Berkeley coach Suzanne Sillett said.

### HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS

ley coach Suzanne Sillett said. "We're here every day, so we're used to (the AstroTurf). But if you put us on a good field, we could play with anyone. Today was a big game, and we were prepared to do everything we needed to do to win."

Berkeley went on the attack from the start, and Haley Geller set the tone early for the Yellow Jackets, scoring with the game barely four minutes old.

Not content to sit on their lead, the Yellow Jackets continued to dictate play. Alameda did not get off a shot until Taylor Holtslaw put an attempt well over the net from long range in the 33rd minute.

Holtslaw's shot did not signal a change in momentum. On the contrary, Berkeley quickly re-

sumed its attacking ways.

Hornets goalkeeper Kayla Mogg did well to punch away a Kathleen O'Leary header at 36 minutes, but the Yellow Jackets made the most of the ensuing corner kick. The ball was played to Kate Berry Millett, who in turn fed Kristina Hall for the game's final goal.

Alameda fell to 6-1-1 in ACCAL play and 9-4-1 overall.

**St. Mary's 0, Piedmont 0:** The host Panthers played perennial powerhouse Piedmont to a tie on Monday. Scottie Meinke had four saves for the Panthers (11-4-2, 8-2-2 Bay Shore Athletic League).

**St. Mary's 4, Albany 0:** Kristen White and Paige Freiberger each scored twice for the host Panthers on Friday. Jessica Bibby had 11 saves for Albany (5-8-2, 4-6-2 BSAL).

See GIRLS, Page 2

### HIGH SCHOOL BOYS

## Gauchos roll to two victories

### ■ El Cerrito takes care of Alameda and Hercules, plays Pinole Valley in ACCAL showdown tonight

By Phil Jensen  
STAFF WRITER

The El Cerrito High School boys basketball team improved to 4-1 in the Alameda Contra Costa Athletic League with a 63-55 victory over host Alameda on Tuesday.

The Gauchos held a 49-35 lead after three quarters, then held off a rally by the Hornets (1-4 ACCAL). Greg Brizendine scored a game-high 21 points for the Gauchos, who face league-leader Pinole Valley tonight.

**El Cerrito 62, Hercules 50:** The host Gauchos received 18 points from Darnell Quinney in the victory on Friday. El Cerrito took a 34-21 lead into halftime and held a 48-31 third quarter advantage before Hercules rallied.

**Berkeley 75, Encinal 58:** The host Yellow Jackets (6-10, 2-3 ACCAL) took a 23-11 lead in the first quarter on Tuesday. Berkeley had three players score in double figures, led by Brandon Senigar with 19 points.

**Richmond 105, Berkeley 84:** Senigar scored 22 points for visiting Berkeley, but the Yellow Jackets were unable to hold off the offensive onslaught of the Oilers (10-6, 3-2 ACCAL) on Friday.

**St. Mary's 65, Albany 33:** The host Panthers (15-5, 5-1 Bay Shore Athletic League) took a 15-4 first quarter lead on their way to this BSAL win on Tuesday. Rolando Oliver scored 16 points and had five steals for the Panthers. Teammate Will Brew had a double-double with 15 points and 11 rebounds. Albany (7-15, 3-4) was paced in scoring by Josh Olson with 11 points.

**St. Mary's 76, John Swett 56:** The host Panthers held a 39-20 halftime lead on Friday. Brew and Marcus Semien led St. Mary's in scoring with 13 points apiece.

**St. Joseph Notre Dame 52, Albany 35:** The visiting Cougars trailed 16-3 in the first quarter on Saturday. Andre Gumina scored a team-high 11 points for Albany.

### SOCCER

**El Cerrito 1, Alameda 0:** The Gauchos produced

See BOYS, Page 2



# Don't let wet weather rain on your parade

**C**OLD, RAINY weather can be depressing. But I wouldn't let it spoil an outdoor outing. After all, there's something to be said for splashing around on a muddy trail. It kind of brings out the kid in you.

Of course, this isn't everyone's cup of tea. But for the more adventurous there's no reason not to brave a little hardship. But doing so doesn't mean running outdoors in summer gear.

So, what kind of rain gear is necessary? For a casual stroll in a park, an umbrella comes in handy, obviously.

But to remain less constrained, a poncho works just fine in the rain. These are relatively cheap and can be found at most sporting goods stores and other fine retailers. If you really want to slum it or are in a bind, a heavy duty, plastic garbage bag works fine.

For anglers, a little rain won't stop you from heading out to your favorite fishing hole. A poncho can work just as well on shore or on a boat. But anglers might also consider a rain suit, consisting of a hooded jacket and pants, and possibly a rain hat.

Backpackers also likely will need a rain jacket, rain pants, a rain hat and a backpack cover. A popular material for rain



MIKE GALE  
Recreation

gear is Gore-Tex, but shop around because that can get expensive.

The next time dark clouds appear on the horizon, get out the rain gear. Don't let the rain dampen your outing.

**JUNIORS KEEP HUNTING:** There are plenty of things coming up for hunters, including a good opportunity for juniors.

The California Department of Fish and Game (DFG) is extending the waterfowl season Feb. 4-5 for hunters 15 and younger. Youngsters will be allowed to hunt wherever there is legal access, including federal refuges and state wildlife areas opened by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and DFG. The normal waterfowl season ends Sunday.

To hunt the wildlife areas and refuges, youngsters must apply using the normal reservation system with the junior hunter's hunting license num-

ber. Hunters should use a one- or five-choice waterfowl reservation application, which are available from hunting license agents and at DFG offices.

A non-shooting adult 18 or older must accompany the junior hunter. Participants must have completed a hunter education course and possess a valid California Junior Hunting License in order to take part. They are not required to have state or federal duck stamps.

The Howard Slough Wildlife Area and the Sutter National Wildlife Refuge will both be closed due to flooding.

**SPANISH SPEAKERS** **NEEDED:** DFG's Hunter Education Program needs bilingual volunteer instructors to satisfy a diverse and growing demand for classes.

These instructors help new hunters, including those who are part of California's Spanish-speaking population, receive the hunter safety training required by law.

Individuals interested in obtaining a hunting license in California are required to take hunter education training. To obtain a new license each year, hunters must have either previously held a license or have proof of completing a hunter education course in California or another state.

For more information, contact the Hunter Education Program at 916-653-1235.

Contact Mike Gale at 925-930-6150, by e-mail at [mgale@cc-times.com](mailto:mgale@cc-times.com) or by writing P.O. Box 8099, Walnut Creek, CA 94596-8099.

## HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS BASKETBALL POLL

Rank	School	Record	Comment
1.	Pinole Valley	15-0	Spartans await ACCAL showdown with El Cerrito tonight
2.	El Cerrito	13-1	Gauchos' pressure forces 29 turnovers in win over Alhambra
3.	Carondelet	12-2	Cougars' defense allows a total of nine field goals in 53-19 win over Pinole
4.	Deer Valley	13-3	Wolverines take 45-13 halftime lead on way to win over Ygnacio Valley
5.	San Leandro	13-2	Pirates hand Mt. Eden first HAAL defeat with a 79-45 triumph
6.	Washington	16-2	With Irvington's struggles, Huskies are clear favorite in MVAL
7.	Piedmont	13-4	Highlanders lose to first NCS opponent since Feb. 21, 2003
8.	St. Patrick	14-2	Bruins defeat St. Elizabeth 88-20 to improve to 4-0 in BSAL
9.	St. Mary's	9-7	Panthers beat Piedmont for the first time in last nine tries
10.	Northgate	13-3	Broncos rebound from Carondelet loss with win over Dublin

**Also receiving votes:** Miramonte (10-4), San Ramon Valley (12-5), Berkeley (6-7), Granada (10-5). The girls basketball poll incorporates all East Bay high schools. Records are through Jan. 18.

## HIGH SCHOOL BOYS BASKETBALL POLL

Rank	School	Record	Comment
1.	De La Salle	13-1	Opponents average 31.75 points during first eight games of win
2.	San Leandro	13-2	Falls in OT to defending CIF Division II state champion Oak Ridge
3.	Tennyson	13-1	Lancers produce gritty wins over Bishop O'Dowd, Arroyo
4.	Campolindo	13-3	Cougars outscore Oakland Tech 44-19 in first half of win
5.	San Ramon Valley	13-4	Has gone more than a year without an EBAL loss
6.	Foothill	15-2	Rebounds from loss to SRV with wins over California, Granada
7.	Las Lomas	14-2	Knights awaited showdown with Campolindo on Tuesday
8.	Skyline	15-4	Continues to be top dog of the OAL after beating McClymonds
9.	Salesian	13-4	Chieftains outlast St. Joseph Notre Dame to earn 50-49 overtime
10.	Deer Valley	13-4	With 5-0 mark, Wolverines led BVAL by a half-game over De La Sa

**Also receiving votes:** Pinole Valley (11-4), St. Joseph Notre Dame (13-5). The boys basketball poll incorporates all East Bay high schools. Records are through Jan. 18.

## Boys

FROM PAGE 1

their first win of the season. Maynor Figueroa scored the game-winning goal for the host Gauchos (1-9-3, 1-7-1 ACCAL) in the 46-minute mark on Monday.

**St. Mary's 1, Albany 0:** Rob Riccardi scored the game-winning goal at the 79-minute mark to give the visiting Panthers (8-6, 6-4 BSAL) the victory. Wadud

Jandali had five saves for Albany (4-6 BSAL).

**Encinal 3, El Cerrito 1:** Figueroa scored in the second half for the host Gauchos, but it wasn't enough against the Jets on Jan. 19.

**Berkeley 4, Alameda 0:** Erick Strauss figured in all four of the visiting Yellow Jackets' goals on Jan. 19. He had a hat trick and an assist in the game. Berkeley improved to 6-3 in ACCAL play. **St. Patrick-St. Vincent 3, Al-**

**bany 2:** Jong-Hyun Cho, Christopher Lewis gave the Cougars a 2-0 lead in the half, but they were unable to

it against the Bruins on Jan. 18. **WRESTLING** **Albany 67, John Sw...** Daniel Singh (112-pound), Raphael (119), Jordan Portia Tarek Wally (171) and Wallen (215) all pinned the ponents in this Bay Shore League match on Jan. 18. improved to 3-0 in BSAL.

## El Cerrito

FROM PAGE 1

now we are letting teams come back.

"We are going to have to get our chemistry back on track."

Emerson helped the team pick it up in overtime, scoring the Gauchos' first four points to give them a 60-58 lead. Emerson's layup to open overtime gave El Cerrito its first lead since mid-way through the third quarter.

El Cerrito led at halftime 28-25 and opened the second half on a 6-2 run.

Alameda responded with a 19-4 run, keyed by Michelle Blaisdell, who had two 3-pointers during the spurt.

Alameda led 56-49 with 2:04 left in the game but committed two turnovers and missed three free throws to end regulation. Janae Miller paced the Hornets (9-8, 2-3) with 34 points, including all 10 of Alameda's points in overtime.

**El Cerrito 60, Oakland Tech 53:** Crain-Williams had 19 points and 16 rebounds to lead the Gauchos, who overcame 39 turnovers and 33-percent shooting to beat the Bulldogs at the Acalanes Shootout on Saturday.

El Cerrito had all kinds of difficulty with Oakland Tech's press, which helped create 20 turnovers by halftime. Although the Gauchos rarely found a rhythm on offense, hitting just 14 of 43 shots, they did connect on 28 of 35 free throws.

"Someone told me we had 41 turnovers. I thought it was 100," Williams said. "Tech's going to do what they do. We have to be able to handle that, but we really didn't."

Williams sat out Myleka Emerson for the first half, saying he wanted to give his starting point guard's weary left ankle a rest after she played nearly the entire game in the Gauchos' 49-45 overtime win over Hercules on Friday night. Williams said Emerson hurt her ankle on Jan. 13 against De Anza.

Emerson's presence helped El Cerrito build a 31-20 lead early in the third quarter. The Bulldogs, however, went on a 12-4 run thanks in part to six points from guard Brittney Williams.

But that's as close as Oakland Tech (7-8), the two-time defending Division I state champions, would come as El Cerrito scored the last nine points of the third.

**El Cerrito 49, Hercules 45:** The visiting Gauchos made three

clutch free throws in the seconds of overtime to beat Titans (9-8, 1-4) on Friday.

Hercules led through an extra period until about the 10th minute. In regulation, Hercules Kenyana Martin (29 point rebounds) tied the game, seconds left with two free throws to force overtime.

Crain-Williams led El Cerrito with 15 points.

Staff writer Curtis Pashek contributed to this roundup.

## WHAT'S HAPPENING

To submit an item to the What's Happening calendar, e-mail [sports@cc-times.com](mailto:sports@cc-times.com) to request a form. Put "What's Happening" in the subject line. Nonprofit organizations only. You may be asked to submit a copy of your 1099 or 501(c)3 to verify nonprofit status. Entries are edited for content and are published as space is available.

### BASKETBALL

**■ BYA Basketball Leagues** — Sign-ups for Pee Wee Basketball, boys and girls ages 6-9, Feb. 4, 10 a.m.; and All Net Basketball, boys and girls ages 9-11, Feb. 23, 4:30 p.m., 1255 Allston Way, Berkeley, \$20-\$25. Reservations: 510-845-9066 or e-mail, [sports@byaonline.org](mailto:sports@byaonline.org).

**■ Pinole Baseball** — Looking for players for 14U traveling team, particularly pitchers and utility players. To schedule a tryout appointment, call Red Otterbein, 510-222-8520.

### FUND-RAISER

**■ Cougar Classic** — Feb. 10, noon shotgun start, Tilden Park Golf Course, Grizzly Peak Blvd. and

Shasta Road, Berkeley. Proceeds benefit Albany High School golf team. \$35 (high school players), \$75 (adults). Fred Brown, 510-604-2282 or e-mail, [mackykraus@speakeasy.net](mailto:mackykraus@speakeasy.net).

### GENERAL

**■ Diablo Valley College Athletic Hall of Fame** — Diablo Valley College is trying to locate former Vikings athletes from its 1970 state championship wrestling team, 1973 state champion men's swim team and 1978 state champion women's swim team for its first Hall of Fame banquet on Feb. 9 at the Crowne Plaza of Concord. Athletes from those teams should contact DVC athletic director Steve Ward at 925-685-1230, ext. 2742.

### LACROSSE

**■ Skyline Lacrosse** — Online registration for boys, grades 2-4 and 7-8; and girls, grades 2-8, at [www.skylinelacrosse.com](http://www.skylinelacrosse.com). 510-595-8038.

### SOFTBALL

**■ Albany/Berkeley Girls Softball League** — Online registration for players, grades 1-9, at [abgsl.org](http://abgsl.org)

through Feb. 1. Season begins in March. 510-869-4277, or e-mail registrar@abgsl.org.

### JOBS

**■ Richmond High School** — Seeking varsity baseball coach. For information, please contact Roy Rogers (510-237-8770, ext. 2329) or Randy Enos (510-237-8770, ext. 2309).

**■ St. Mary's College High School** — Accepting applications for following positions: head and assistant varsity softball coach. Denis Mohun, 510-559-6218.

**■ Pinole Valley High School** — Seeking assistant varsity baseball coaches. Ben Juarez, 925-354-0188.

**■ Wilson Prep** — Seeking varsity and junior varsity football assistant coaches; and head junior varsity football coach for Oakland school. Osibisa, 415-652-7728, or e-mail, [osibisa.roseby@aspirepublicschools.org](mailto:osibisa.roseby@aspirepublicschools.org).

**■ Ygnacio Valley High School** — Seeking assistant baseball coaches for varsity and junior varsity teams. Mark Ferguson, 925-787-4335.

## Girls

FROM PAGE 1

**Albany 2, St. Patrick-St. Vincent 2:** Megan Moss scored both of the Cougars' goals in the BSAL tie at St. Patrick-St. Vincent.

**El Cerrito 3, Alameda 0:** Averil Mortimer scored two first-half goals to lift the visiting Gauchos (8-3-2, 5-1-2 ACCAL) to a victory over the Hornets on Tuesday. Linda Saephan had the Gauchos' other goal.

### BASKETBALL

**St. Mary's 66, Albany 43:** Courtney Dunn scored a game-high 19 points and also grabbed 10 rebounds in the win for the visiting Panthers (11-8, 6-0 BSAL) on Tuesday. Cristina Thomas added 18 points for St. Mary's. Albany (6-9, 4-2) was paced in scoring by Annie Chin with 14 points.

**Carondelet 59, St. Mary's 45:** Jayne Appel tied her high school career high with 39 points to help the Cougars beat the Panthers at the Acalanes Shootout on Saturday.

"There's nothing you can do about Jayne," St. Mary's coach Nate Fripp said. "She is going to get hers."

Playing in her fourth and final Shootout, Appel got most of "hers" in the second half. She scored 25 after halftime, including 13 of the Cougars' 15 third-quarter points.

Despite Appel's big game, the Cougars (14-2) entered the fourth quarter with a 39-31 lead, which the Panthers (9-8) cut to three with 5:32 left in the game.

Carondelet responded with a game-ending 20-9 run.

The Panthers (10-8) opened the game with a 7-3 run, but they finished the opening quarter with four turnovers. They led again 26-24 in the third quarter, but Carondelet went on a 9-0 run to regain the lead that it never re-

linquished.

St. Mary's was paced by Dunn with 16 points.

**St. Mary's 77, John Swett 30:** The visiting Panthers outscored John Swett 21-5 in the second quarter to take command on Friday. Carmen Aguilar and Sonjha Beam led a balanced Panthers scoring effort with nine points apiece.

**Albany 50, St. Joseph Notre Dame 34:** The host Cougars (6-8, 4-1 BSAL) took a 30-17 halftime lead and held on for the win. Tori Nicks and Carrissa Hsieh each scored 15 points for Albany.

**Berkeley 60, Westmoor-Daly City 56:** Sophomore Alexandria Mitchell scored 12 of her 19 points after halftime, including five in the fourth quarter to help the Yellow Jackets (8-7) beat the Rams (16-5) in the Acalanes Shootout on Saturday.

With the game tied at 25, Berkeley's Jazmine Perkins

helped the Yellow Jackets end the first half on a 10-4 run with four points. Perkins finished with 12, including 10 in the second quarter.

"Today we got our rhythm," said Perkins, whose team won consecutive games for the second time this season. "If that had been one of our other games, we would have fouled or broke down and lost the lead."

The Yellow Jackets trailed 55-53 with 4:04 left in the game but closed the game on a 7-1 run and hit 5-of-5 free throws in the final 3:52 of the game.

**Berkeley 70, Richmond 21:** Jennifer Gross scored a game-high 19 points and Mitchell added 18 points in the Yellow Jackets (3-1 BSAL) rout of the visiting Oilers on Friday.

Staff writers Robert Jordan and Phil Jensen contributed to this roundup.

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NOW PLAYING

Below are capsule reviews of movies playing at area theaters. Reviewers are Mary F. Pols, Randy Myers, Steven Rea, Carrie Rickay and Rene Rodriguez, Knight Ridder; Bruce Newman, Sam Jose Mercury News; David Germain, Christine Lemire, Associated Press; Bob Longino, Cox News Service; Anita Galas, Dave Kehr, Laura Kern, A.O. Scott, New York Times; Jami Bernard, Jack Matthews and Elizabeth Weitzman, New York Daily News; David Kronke, Bob Strauss, Glenn Whipp, Los Angeles Daily News; Carina Chocano, Kevin Dwyer, Manohla Dargis, Kevin Thomas and Kenneth Turan, Los Angeles Times; Chris Vognar and Philip French, Dallas Morning News; Jay Byrnes and Roger Moore, Orlando Sentinel; Carla Meyer, Sacramento Bee; Y. Burr and Wesley Morris, Boston Globe; Steve Persall, St. Petersburg Times; Curt Fields, Ann Horowitz, Stephen Hunter, Philip Kennel, Michael O'Sullivan and Dan Hannon, Washington Post; Hersh Conen, Zap2it.com.

**"AFTER INNOCENCE":** This quietly understated film documents the lives of seven men after they are exonerated by post-conviction DNA testing, while questioning the logic and ethics of a system that provides ample social services for ex-convicts who have served their time, but none for those wrongly imprisoned. — C.  
Chocano (R) not rated. Contains verbal descriptions of violent crimes. 1 hour, 35 minutes. A-

**"BROKEBACK MOUNTAIN":** Two cowboys (Jake Gyllenhaal and Heath Ledger) fall unexpectedly in love in a rugged Ang Lee's masterful ode to the West and romance. The pair meet and find themselves impossibly attracted to each other while herding sheep on Brokeback Mountain, then form a clandestine relationship that lasts 20 years. Everything about this beautiful and evocative film works, from the cast to the direction to the score. — R. Myers. (R: sexuality, nudity, language and some violence.) 2 hours, 14 minutes. A

**"CAPOTE":** Philip Seymour Hoffman isn't the only name considered for an Oscar nomination in this rich and profound film about the making of a masterpiece and the undoing of a writer. Hoffman never misses a beat playing flamboyant author Truman Capote. The assured movie, from director Bennett Miller, follows the egomaniacal author through the process of writing his masterpiece, "In Cold Blood." Catherine Keener is exceptional as Capote's friend, and assistant, Harper Lee. — R. Myers. (R: some violent images and brief strong language.) 1 hour, 50 minutes. A

**"CASANOVA":** In this witty, romantic romp, our randy hero (Heath Ledger) meets the woman of his dreams while pretending to be someone else. The message is "Love conquers all," and while that's an odd message for a movie about one of history's biggest rakes, it's also a nice thought anytime we can get it. — C. Hewitt. (R: some sexual content.) 1 hour, 48 minutes. B

**"CHEAPER BY THE DOZEN 2":** Steve Martin and Bonnie Hunt play parents to 12 kids in this sequel to the 2003 original. Now the kids are growing up, and Dad is having a hard time adjusting to their leaving Chicago so he plans one last family vacation. The film's strengths, such as they are, lie in the appealing performances of Martin as the anxious but loving dad and Hunt as the perfect, patient mom. — N. Churnin. (PG) 1 hour, 40 minutes. C

**"THE CHRONICLES OF NARNIA: THE LION, THE WITCH AND THE WARDROBE":** The childlike wonderment we experienced when we first encountered the magical world of author C.S. Lewis is replicated in this enchanting adaptation of the first of a seven-book series. Four children living in England's countryside during WWII enter a wardrobe that takes them to a winter wonderland where an evil White Witch (Tilda Swinton) with killer fashion sense is in a tug-of-war with a majestic and virtuous lion (voiced by Liam Neeson). The film with Christian themes lags as it enters its more talky third final act, but "Narnia" casts quite a spell. Take the family and enjoy. — R. Myers. (PG: battle sequences, frightening moments.) 2 hours, 20 minutes. B+

**"DUMA":** Carroll Ballard's beautiful wildlife adventure tale is an intimate story of a child and a wild animal told against an epic backdrop. A baby cheetah is found by 12-year-old Xan (Alexander Michaelides) and his father (Campbell Scott) near their farm in South Africa. The family nurses the cheetah to health and adulthood, knowing full well that someday the animal must be returned to the wild.

— G. Whipp. (PG: mild adventure peril.) 1 hour, 40 minutes. B+

**"END OF THE SPEAR":** Steve Saint's father, Nate, was a missionary pilot murdered with four others in a bungled encounter with Amazon jungle natives in 1956. This independent-produced religious film is about that massacre; also Saint's emotional confrontation with the man who killed his father. Made with imagination and skill, but the script and acting are limited. — R. Moore. (PG-13: intense sequences of violence.) 1 hour, 52 minutes. B

**"THE FAMILY STONE":** In this warm, funny and smart film, Sarah Jessica Parker plays an uptight character in a premise many will relate to — meeting the in-laws, and how things get confusing when lots of people's feelings are involved. It's an unruly pile of dovetailing story lines that are surprising, complicated and genuine. Diane Keaton and Luke Wilson also star. — C. Hewitt. (PG-13: language, drug use.) 1 hour, 43 minutes. B+

**"FUN WITH DICK AND JANE":** Jim Carrey and Tea Leoni star in this remake of the 1977 George Seagal and Jane Fonda movie. The premise — an upper-middle-class couple turn to crime to maintain their lifestyle after losing their jobs — has tremendous potential as a satire of our consumerist society and our obsession with status. But the picture's primary interest is giving Carrey a stage for his trademark over-the-top stylings. Even here, though, it disappoints, since the actor spends most of the picture in strangely muted mode. — R. Rodriguez. (PG-13: vulgar language, adult themes.) 1 hour, 30 minutes. D+

**"GLODY ROAD":** Newly hired collegiate basketball coach Don Haskins (Josh Lucas) of "Sweet Home Alabama" tries to whip up a winning season by recruiting players, mostly black, in the mid-60s. What results is history: the first all-black starting lineup. This rousing sports movie delivers the goods, mixing drama and humor to offer a family film that earns its applause. It slips a bit at the end, but is filled with hope and feeling. — R. Myers. (PG: racial issues including violence and epithets; momentary language.) 1 hour, 46 minutes. B+

**"GOOD NIGHT, AND GOOD LUCK":** George Clooney directed, wrote and co-stars in this sharp black-and-white film about veteran newsmen Edward R. Murrow's tangle with anti-Communist fanatic Joseph McCarthy (wisely depicted in archival footage). The film both educates and entertains, reminding us of an important episode in history that resonates today. — R. Myers. (PG: mild thematic elements, brief language.) 1 hour, 33 minutes. A

**"HARRY POTTER AND THE GOBLET OF FIRE":** It smells an awful lot like teen spirit in the fourth installment of the phenomenal series about an orphaned boy with sorcerer abilities. Harry (Daniel Radcliffe) grows up fast as he faces down a pack of vicious mermaids, fights an ill-tempered dragon and discovers the opposite sex. Director Mike Newell ("Four Weddings and a Funeral") makes "Goblet" way too scary for the little ones, but strikes a chord with the material, showing us the dark side of adolescence. — R. Myers. (PG-13: sequences of fantasy violence, frightening images.) 2 hours, 37 minutes. B

**"HOODWINKED":** Clever, peppy and hilarious, the first animated release from Kanbar Animation takes the "Little Red Riding Hood" tale and tweaks it. In a tip of the hat to "Rashomon," four versions of a "crime" are told by Red, the Wolf, the Woodsman and Granny. The questioning reveals alter egos that are both surprising and irreverent. The animation isn't on a par with Pixar or DreamWorks, but this journey into the woods is an absolute delight, cool for hipsters and the entire family. — R. Myers. (PG: some mild action and thematic elements.) 1 hour, 26 minutes. A-

**"HOSTEL":** Few horror movies are truly disturbing. This one is. Twentysomething friends Paxton (Jay Hernandez) and Josh (Derek Richardson) smoke hash and chase foreign females. Then a stranger encourages them to take the train to Slovakia, where there's a hostel with the most amazing women. Everything falls into the young men's laps ... until they find themselves handcuffed to chairs in a dungeon with a variety of sharp tools and wild-eyed people with ideas about how to use them. — C. Lemire. (R: brutal scenes of torture and violence, strong sexual content, language and drug use.) 1 hour, 35 minutes. C+

**"KING KONG":** A spectacular, but long-winded — three hours plus! — remake from director Peter Jackson ("Lord of the Rings"). Naomi Watts makes a wonderful damsel in distress, a vaudeville actress who be-

OPENING TODAY

**"ANNAPOLIS" (PG-13)**  
A young man (James Franco) tries to prove himself in the Naval Academy by entering a boxing competition.

**"BIG MOMMA'S HOUSE 2" (PG-13)**  
Martin Lawrence plays Big Momma yet again, this time to avert a national security disaster.

**"BUBBLE" (R)**  
Co-workers in a Midwestern doll factory discover love and murder in the latest project from Steven Soderbergh, the first of six films he's directing for HDNet Films. The partnership calls for almost simultaneous release on DVD (Tuesday).

**"CACHE" (R)**  
A French couple (Daniel Auteuil, Juliette Binoche) receive a mysterious package containing a videotape of them, filmed from across the street. From Cannes Film Festival winner Michael Haneke ("The Piano Teacher").

**"IMAGINE ME & YOU" (R)**  
In this romantic comedy, a bride-to-be (Piper Perabo) finds herself attracted to a female guest on her walk up the aisle.

**"NANNY MCPHEE" (PG)**  
Emma Thompson wrote and stars in this fable about a magical nanny who whips seven unruly children into shape. With Angela Lansbury and Colin Firth.

**"THE REAL DIRT ON FARMER JOHN" (NR)**  
An eccentric Midwestern farmer hits upon an innovative way to keep the family farm from folding.

**"ROVING MARS" (G)**  
This IMAX film surveys the Red Planet from the viewpoint of Spirit and Opportunity, the two Mars Rovers.

comes the object of the 25-foot ape's affection. The creature is a special-effects marvel, who expresses both sympathy and fury as he woos the beauty who will be his downfall. Also great is Skull Island — a tropical nightmare filled with hellish signs and savages. — R. Myers. (PG-13: frightening adventure violence and some disturbing images.) 3 hours, 7 minutes. B+

**"LAST HOLIDAY":** Retail clerk Georgia Byrd (Queen Latifah) learns she has only three weeks to live. The prognosis leads the overly conscientious woman into making a U-turn, selling off bonds and going on a decadent European vacation. Thanks to a huggable performance by Latifah — who transforms from a timid milquetoast to a speak-her-mind Cinderella — it works. Director Wayne Wang ("The Joy Luck Club") shows great affection for both his characters and situations, plus LL Cool J is charming as the shy love interest. — R. Myers. (PG-13: some sexual references.) 1 hour, 52 minutes. B+

**"LOOKING FOR COMEDY IN THE MUSLIM WORLD":** This Albert Brooks satire takes a promising premise and squanders it with lame jokes and predictable situations. The whiny Brooks heads to India to learn what makes Muslims laugh at the best of the U.S. government. Brooks, so good in "Broadcast News" and "Defending Your Life," serves up clunky jokes and feeble commentary. After a promising start, it turns painfully unfunny. — R. Myers. (PG-13: drug content, brief strong language.) 1 hour, 38 minutes. D+

**"THE MATADOR":** Pierce Brosnan plays against type as Julian, an international assassin facing a serious career meltdown, who strikes up an unlikely friendship with struggling, straight-arrow businessman Danny (Greg Kinnear). The two meet over margaritas in a hotel bar in Mexico City, then go their separate ways soon after. But something has happened between them that we don't know until six months later, when Julian shows up at Danny's door. It seems the hit man has one more job to do before he can retire and he wants — demands — Danny's help. — J. Mathews. (R: strong sexual content and language.) 1 hour, 36 minutes. B

**"MATCH POINT":** Woody Allen takes on a new game and, for the most part, scores. The movie, set in England instead of New York, pays homage to film noir with its dark themes. Jonathan Rhys Meyers stars as a tennis pro smitten with his new, upper-crust friend's fiancée (Scarlett

Johansson). The film-school symbolism and tennis metaphors can be a bit much, but that can almost be ignored in a movie filled with suppressed and snappy exchanges. — R. Myers. (R: some sexuality.) 2 hours, 4 minutes. B

**"MEMOIRS OF A GEISHA":** This beautiful epic based on the best-selling 1997 novel plays up the soap-opera elements as it chronicles the life of a pre-WWII geisha. Ziyi Zhang ("House of Flying Daggers") plays Sayuri, a geisha of great acclaim who finds herself terribly infatuated with an older man (Ken Watanabe) who seems barely aware of her existence. As directed by Rob Marshall ("Chicago"), "Geisha" caresses our senses with its breathtaking imagery and lush photography, but what ultimately results is a slightly shallow version that emphasizes the melodrama. — R. Myers. (PG-13: mature subject matter and some sexual content.) 2 hours, 24 minutes. B

**"MRS. HENDERSON PRESENTS":** This mildly naughty and fitfully entertaining comedy/drama finds Judi Dench playing a familiar role, that of an upstairs widow who likes to engage in a battle of wits with anyone she encounters. Dench is indeed delightful as Laura Henderson, proprietor of a vaudeville theater where the actresses go nude to buy business, and Bob Hoskins as the theater manager she hires. But the tone shifts, slapping away the comedy in favor of drama and the resulting fusion doesn't gel. — R. Myers. (R: nudity and brief language.) 1 hour, 43 minutes. C+

**"THE NEW WORLD":** The latest film by iconoclastic filmmaker Terrence Malick ("The Thin Red Line") is achingly beautiful, but slowly paced, with more voice-over narration than dialogue. Colin Farrell is John Smith and O'Oriana Kilcher is Pocahontas in this tale of the interaction between settlers and Native Americans in 1607

See MOVIES, Page C4

FRIDAY MOVIE LISTINGS

Movie times for Friday January 27

Alameda County

**Act 1 and 2**  
1600 Center Street, Berkeley 510-464-5980  
After Innocence (Not Rated) 7:15, 9:30  
Free Freaky! Die Freaky! (Not Rated) 12  
Looking for Comedy in the Muslim World (PG-13) 7, 9:15

**Nbany Twin**  
1115 Solano Ave., Albany 510-464-5980  
Caché (R) 1:15, 4, 6:45, 9:20  
Good Night, And Good Luck (PG) 1:45, 4:20, 7:15, 9:30

**AMC Bay Street 16**  
1001 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley 510-457-4262  
Brokeback Mountain (PG-13) 12:30, 3:15, 5:45, 8:20, 10:40  
Brokeback Mountain (R) 1:30, 4:20, 7:20, 10:15

**Capote (R)** 12:10, 2:45, 8:05  
Casanova (R) 5:30, 10:45  
Cheaper by the Dozen 2 (PG) 12:45, 3, 7:10, 9:25, 9:45

**Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, The Witch and the Wardrobe (PG)** 12:25, 3:30, 6:30, 9:30  
The Family Stone (PG-13) 1:55, 4:25, 6:55, 9:15

**Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire (PG-13)** 12:15, 2:20, 4:30, 6:40, 8:50  
Hoodwinked (PG) 12:40, 2:35, 4:55, 7, 9  
King Kong (PG-13) 1:20, 5:15, 9:05  
The Matador (R) 1:30, 5:25, 7:40, 9:55  
Match Point (R) 12, 2:40, 5:20, 8:15, 10:55

**Memoirs of a Geisha (PG-13)** 12:15, 2:45, 8:45, 10  
The New World (PG-13) 1:10, 4:05, 7:05, 9:50  
Pride & Prejudice (PG) 1:50, 4:40, 7:30, 10:20

**United Artists Berkeley 7**  
2274 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley 510-456-1852  
Big Momma's House 2 (PG-13) 11:45, 12:30, 2:15, 3, 4:50, 5:30, 7:20, 8, 9:45, 10:30

**Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, The Witch and the Wardrobe (PG)** 12:40, 3:40, 6:40, 9:40  
End of the Spear (PG-13) 12:45  
Glory Road (PG) 1:30, 4:20, 7:10, 10  
Memoirs of a Geisha (PG-13) 1:10, 6:45, 9:50

**Nanny McPhee (PG)** 12:10, 2:30, 4:40, 7, 9:30  
Underworld: Evolution (R) 12:15, 2:45, 5:15, 7:45, 10:15

**United Artists Emery Bay Stadium 10**  
6330 Christie Ave., Emeryville 510-420-0107  
Big Momma's House 2 (PG-13) 12, 12:45, 1:30, 2:40, 4, 5, 6:30, 7:15, 8, 9:30, 10:20

**End of the Spear (PG-13)** 1, 4:40, 7:20, 9:50  
Glory Road (PG) 12:30, 4, 7:10, 10  
Last Holiday (PG-13) 12:15, 1:15, 2:45, 4:10, 5:15, 7:45, 9:40, 10:15  
Munich (R) 3:15, 10

**Underworld: Evolution (R)** 12, 1, 2:30, 4:15, 5:10, 7, 7:50, 9:45, 10:30  
Walk the Line (PG-13) 12:50, 4:20, 7:30, 10:30

**Central Contra Costa**  
Renaissance Orinda Theatre  
4 Orinda Theatre Sq., Orinda 925-254-9060  
Brokeback Mountain (R) 12:30, 3:30, 6:45, 9:30  
Looking for Comedy in the Muslim World (PG-13) 3:45, 8:45  
Pride & Prejudice (PG) 12:45, 6:15

**Oaks Theatre**  
1015 Solano Avenue, Berkeley 510-526-1836  
Casanova (R) 7:45  
Hoodwinked (PG) 1:15  
Last Holiday (PG-13) 5, 7:30

**Parkway Speakeasy Theater**  
1834 Park Blvd., Oakland 510-814-2400  
Capote (R) 7, 9:45  
Good Night, And Good Luck (PG) 6:30  
Walk the Line (PG-13) 9:15

**Piedmont Theatre**  
1100 Piedmont Ave., Oakland 510-464-5980  
Brokeback Mountain (R) 1, 1:45, 4, 5, 7, 8:30, 9:50  
Match Point (R) 12:45, 3:45, 6:45, 9:40

**Regal Jack London**  
100 Washington, Oakland 510-433-1320  
Annapolis (PG-13) 12:10, 2:30, 5, 7:30, 10:10  
Big Momma's House 2 (PG-13) 12:30, 1:30, 3, 4:30, 5:30, 7:10, 8, 9:45, 10:30

**Fun With Dick & Jane (PG-13)** 12:45  
Glory Road (PG) 1:15, 4:40, 7:30, 10:15  
Last Holiday (PG-13) 1, 4, 7:15, 9:50  
The Matador (R) 12:20, 2:50, 5:20, 7:45, 10:10

**Memoirs of a Geisha (PG-13)** 3:45, 7, 10  
The New World (PG-13) 12:45, 4, 7, 10  
Underworld: Evolution (R) 12:15, 2:45, 5:15, 8:10, 10:40

**Shattuck Cinemas**  
2230 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley 510-464-5980  
Annapolis (PG-13) 12:55, 4:25, 7:45, 10  
Bubble (R) 1:20, 3:20, 7:20, 9:20  
Capote (R) 1:10, 4:10, 6:45, 9:25

**The Matador (R)** 1:15, 3:50, 7:10, 9:30  
Munich (R) 12:50, 4:30, 8  
The New World (PG-13) 12:45, 4, 7, 9:50  
Pride & Prejudice (PG) 1, 6:40

**The Real Dirt on Farmer John** (Not Rated) 1:25, 3:30, 5:35, 7:40, 9:45  
The Squid and the Whale (R) 1:50, 4:40, 7:30, 9:15  
Syriana (R) 1:05, 4:05, 7:05, 9:55  
The White Countess (PG-13) 3:55, 9:35

**United Artists Berkeley 7**  
2274 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley 510-456-1852  
Big Momma's House 2 (PG-13) 11:45, 12:30, 2:15, 3, 4:50, 5:30, 7:20, 8, 9:45, 10:30

**Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, The Witch and the Wardrobe (PG)** 12:40, 3:40, 6:40, 9:40  
End of the Spear (PG-13) 12:45  
Glory Road (PG) 1:30, 4:20, 7:10, 10  
Memoirs of a Geisha (PG-13) 1:10, 6:45, 9:50

**Nanny McPhee (PG)** 12:10, 2:30, 4:40, 7, 9:30  
Underworld: Evolution (R) 12:15, 2:45, 5:15, 7:45, 10:15

**United Artists Emery Bay Stadium 10**  
6330 Christie Ave., Emeryville 510-420-0107  
Big Momma's House 2 (PG-13) 12, 12:45, 1:30, 2:40, 4, 5, 6:30, 7:15, 8, 9:30, 10:20

**End of the Spear (PG-13)** 1, 4:40, 7:20, 9:50  
Glory Road (PG) 12:30, 4, 7:10, 10  
Last Holiday (PG-13) 12:15, 1:15, 2:45, 4:10, 5:15, 7:45, 9:40, 10:15  
Munich (R) 3:15, 10

**Underworld: Evolution (R)** 12, 1, 2:30, 4:15, 5:10, 7, 7:50, 9:45, 10:30  
Walk the Line (PG-13) 12:50, 4:20, 7:30, 10:30

**Central Contra Costa**  
Renaissance Orinda Theatre  
4 Orinda Theatre Sq., Orinda 925-254-9060  
Brokeback Mountain (R) 12:30, 3:30, 6:45, 9:30  
Looking for Comedy in the Muslim World (PG-13) 3:45, 8:45  
Pride & Prejudice (PG) 12:45, 6:15

**Rheem All Stadium 4**  
350 Park St., Moraga 925-988-3411  
Glory Road (PG) 5:15, 7:35, 9:55  
Hoodwinked (PG) 5:05, 7:20, 9:45  
Memoirs of a Geisha (PG-13) 5:10, 7:55  
Underworld: Evolution (R) 5, 7:25, 9:50

**West Contra Costa**  
Century 16 Hilltop  
3200 Klose Way, Richmond 510-758-2345  
Annapolis (PG-13) 12:25, 3, 5:30, 8, 10:30

**Big Momma's House 2 (PG-13)** 11:35, 12:30, 1:20, 2, 2:55, 3:45, 4:20, 5:15, 6:15, 6:50, 7:35, 8:30, 9:15, 9:55  
Brokeback Mountain (R) 1, 4:05, 7:10, 10:10

**Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, The Witch and the Wardrobe (PG)** 12:45, 3:50, 6:55, 10  
Fun With Dick & Jane (PG-13) 12, 2:25, 4:50, 7:15

**Glory Road (PG)** 11:40, 2:20, 5, 7:45, 10:25  
Hoodwinked (PG) 11:30, 1:35, 3:40, 5:45, 7:55, 10:05  
Hostel (R) 9:35

**King Kong (PG-13)** 12:15, 4:15, 8:15  
Last Holiday (PG-13) 11:55, 2:30, 5:05, 7:40, 10:15  
The Matador (R) 12:05, 2:35, 4:55, 7:25, 9:40

**Nanny McPhee (PG)** 11:45, 2:15, 4:45, 7:20, 9:45  
Syriana (R) 4:30, 9:50  
Underworld: Evolution (R) 11:30, 12:20, 1:55, 2:50, 4:30, 5:20, 7, 7:50, 9:30, 10:20

**Walk the Line (PG-13)** 4:15, 7:05

**San Francisco**  
AMC Van Ness 14  
1000 Van Ness Avenue, San Francisco 415-922-4262  
Annapolis (PG-13) 12, 2:25, 4:55, 7:20, 10

**Big Momma's House 2 (PG-13)** 12:15, 2:45, 5:15, 7:50, 10:15  
Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, The Witch and the Wardrobe (PG) 1, 4:10, 7:05, 10:10  
Glory Road (PG) 12:10, 2:50, 5:25, 8:05, 10:40

**Hoodwinked (PG)** 12:25, 2:35, 4:45, 7:10, 10:50  
King Kong (PG-13) 12:15, 7  
Last Holiday (PG-13) 12:35, 3, 5:30, 8:10, 10:50

**The Matador (R)** 12:30, 2:55, 5:10, 7:35, 9:55  
Match Point (R) 1:30, 4:30, 7:30, 10:20  
Memoirs of a Geisha (PG-13) 12:50, 4:15, 7:25, 10:30

**Munich (R)** 12, 12:30, 3:30, 7, 7  
Nanny McPhee (PG) 12:05, 2:30, 4:50, 7:15, 9:40  
The New World (PG-13) 1:20, 4:20, 7:40, 10:45

**Syriana (R)** 10:25  
Underworld: Evolution (R) 12:45, 3:20, 6, 8:30, 11  
Walk the Line (PG-13) 4, 9:15

**AMC Kabuki 8**  
1881 Post Street, San Francisco 415-922-4262  
Big Momma's House 2 (PG-13) 12:15, 2:45, 5:15, 7:45, 10:20  
Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, The Witch and the Wardrobe (PG) 12:45, 4, 7, 10:10

**Glory Road (PG)** 1:30, 4:30, 7:20, 10  
Memoirs of a Geisha (PG-13) 1:45, 5, 8:15  
Munich (R) 1:15, 4:50, 8:30  
Nanny McPhee (PG) 12, 2:20, 4:40, 7:10, 9:45  
Underworld: Evolution (R) 12:30, 3, 5:30,

8, 10:45  
Walk the Line (PG-13) 1, 4:10, 7:30, 10:50

**Bridge Theatre**  
3010 Geary Blvd., San Francisco 415-267-4893  
Transamerica (R) 1:30, 4:15, 7, 8:20

**Castro Theatre**  
429 Castro St., San Francisco 415-621-6120  
Call theatre for movies and times

**Clay Theatre**  
2261 Filmore Street, San Francisco 415-267-4893  
Caché (R) 1:15, 4:10, 7, 9:50

**Embarcadero Center Cinemas**  
1 Embarcadero Center, San Francisco 415-267-4893  
Brokeback Mountain (R) 12:30, 2, 3:30, 5:30, 7, 8:30, 9:30, 10  
Capote (R) 1:45, 4:30, 7:20, 10:10

**Good Night, And Good Luck (PG)** 12:10, 2:20,







# Your East Bay Auto Experts

**N I P P O N**  
EUROPEAN MOTORS

**BERKELEY BOB'S**  
YOUR VOLVO & TOYOTA SPECIALISTS

## Ask the expert:

Why do my brakes make noise?

**Answer:** There are a variety of reasons. Let's take the most common brake noises.

1. Squealing. Squealing by far is the most annoying and common of all brake noises. The main cause is the type of material the brake pad is made out of. Harder composition pads cause the most noise. For that reason we install only original manufacturer brake pads.

2. Grinding. Grinding is the most expensive sound brakes make. This noise results when all the friction material has worn completely away and the only thing that remains is the metal backing. When braking, this metal surface rubs the brake rotor, causing irreversible damage to the brake rotor. In this case both the brake pad and brake rotor would need replacement.

3. Groaning. Groaning happens when the brake rotor surface has been compromised. Examples are glazed rotors, which result when the waste brake material fuses to the surface of the rotor, creating a mirror-like surface. Ridging happens when the brake pad material wears unevenly and creates high/low spotting on the rotor surface. This condition is usually not urgent but can reduce braking efficiency.

4. Squeaking. Squeaking can happen if the brake pads are equipped with warning sensors. When the friction material wears down to 15% or so, the sensor will gently rub the surface of the brake rotor, creating a squeaking noise. It's a clever warning system to notify you that your brake pads need replacement before extensive damage is done to the brake rotors.

Of course, there are many conditions that will result in brake noise: broken brake hardware, ABS problems, hydraulic failure, even dirt. Also it's easy to mistake vibration for noise. Generally, if your car starts making an unusual brake noise or symptom or especially if the car is "new" to you, have a professional brake inspection done. The inspection will pay for itself in safety and peace of mind and pocketbook. Again we hope this answers some of your questions.

From: **Melissa Holmes, Owner**  
**Bob's Volvo-Toyota Specialists**

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Phone 510.527.2443

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We invite you to give us the opportunity to serve you. Please see our web site for special promotions.

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Phone 510.548.7140

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7 Newspapers Call 510.748.1223**





# THE DINING GUIDE

## Featured Menu

### El Caballo

#### MEXICAN RESTAURANT

891-B Island Drive  
Alameda, CA 94502  
(510) 521-4052

#### CHEF'S SPECIALS

ENJOY SOUP OF THE DAY OR MIXED GREEN SALAD  
WITH YOUR MEAL

**ENCHILADAS POBLANAS**.....9.95  
Two soft corn tortillas filled with seasoned shredded chicken, covered with our special Mole Poblano sauce. Served with pinto beans and Spanish rice.

**CHILE RELLENOS SAN FRANCISCO**.....12.95  
Two fresh Chiles Poblano filled with delicate crab, shrimp meat and cheese, coated with our distinctive tomato lemon batter sauce. Served with Spanish rice.

**MANILA STEAMED CLAMS**.....11.95  
Cooked in white wine, fresh garlic and lemon butter, served with garlic bread.

**SEAFOOD SAUTÉED**.....13.95  
Prawns, scallops, crab legs, sautéed in a special sauce of lemon butter, mushrooms and salsa fresca. Served with Spanish rice and fresh garden vegetables.

**GRILLED CALAMARI STEAK DORE**.....11.95  
Topped with lemon butter caper sauce. Served with Spanish rice and fresh garden vegetables.

#### ESPECIALIDADES DE MARISCOS SEAFOOD SPECIALTIES

Enjoy soup of the day or green salad with your meal.

**CAMARONES AL MOJO DE AJO**.....13.95  
Mexican gulf prawns sautéed with fresh garlic, butter, lemon juice and a touch of sherry wine. Served with Spanish rice and sweet corn.

**ENCHILADAS DE ESPINACAS**.....11.95  
Two flour tortillas filled with spinach, bay shrimp, crab meat, covered with marinara sauce, Monterey and cheddar cheese. Served with Spanish rice and sweet corn.

**ENCHILADAS CABO SAN LUCAS**.....12.95  
Two tender crepes filled with delicate crab meat and bay shrimp covered with our special green tomatillo sauce and cheese. Served with Spanish rice and Mexican corn.

#### TOSTADAS

**TOSTADA GRANDE (Beef, pork, vegetarian or chicken)**.....7.75  
**TOSTADA GRANDE (Ceviche or shrimp)**.....8.25  
**TOSTADA GRANDE DE CANGREJO (Crab)**.....8.95

#### A LA CARTE

**ENCHILADAS (2)**.....5.95  
**TACOS (2) Beef or chicken**.....5.95  
**CHICKEN FLAUTAS (2)**.....5.95  
**TAMAKES (2)**.....5.95  
**CHILE RELLENO**.....3.95

**MEXICAN CORN**.....  
**BEANS OR RICE**.....  
**SIDE GUACAMOLE**.....  
**TORTILLAS (Corn or flour)**.....  
**SOUR CREAM OR CHEESE**.....

#### BURRITOS ESPECIALES

All filled with Spanish rice and refried bean, sauce, cheese and cream on the side.

**BURRITO DE CARNE ASADA (Chopped grilled steak)**.....  
**BURRITO (Seasoned shredded beef or chicken)**.....  
**CHILE VERDE BURRITO (Cubed pork)**.....  
**VEGETARIAN BURRITO**.....  
Fresh pinto beans, rice, sweet corn, cheese, lettuce, salsa fresca and cream

#### ESPECIALIDADES DE LAS CASAS

Enjoy soup of the day or green salad with your meal.

**ENCHILADAS SUIZAS**.....  
Two corn tortillas filled with seasoned shredded chicken, covered with green tomatillo sauce, topped with sour cream. Served with Spanish rice and sweet corn.

**CARNITAS ESTILO JALISCO**.....  
Marinated pork loin fried to a golden brown. Served with Spanish rice, fresh pinto beans, guacamole, salsa fresca y tortillas

**CHILE VERDE**.....  
Tender chunks of pork cooked in a tomatillo sauce with slices of onion and bell peppers. Served with Spanish rice, refried beans and tortillas

**STEAK RANCHERO**.....  
Diced choice steak sautéed in a special sauce of fresh tomatoes, peppers and onions. Served with Spanish rice, refried beans and tortillas

**STEAK A LA MEXICANA**.....  
Tender top sirloin steak grilled to your taste, smothered with green Spanish sweet onion. Served with fresh pinto beans, Spanish rice and tortillas

### Pier 29 Waterfront Restaurant

Seafood/Prime Rib/Steak/Lobster/Cocktail

Breakfast • Lunch • Dinner  
Sunday-Thursday 9am - 10pm  
Friday-Saturday 9-11pm

#### EARLY BIRD DINNERS

\$10<sup>95</sup> - \$11<sup>95</sup> • Soup or Salad • Entree • Dessert  
3pm-6pm Daily

15 Entrees Available - Angus Prime Rib, New York Steak, Chicken, Fresh Petrale Sole, Snapper & Salmon, Fried Prawns, Fried Oysters, Daily Specials & More!

300 29th Avenue, Oakland • 261-1621

Weekend Brunch: 9am-3pm

At the foot of the Park St. Bridge in Oakland. Next to the Estuary  
Plenty of Free Parking, Banquet Facility Available

#### Z Café & Bar

Planning an Event at Z Café & Bar [www.zcafeandbar.com](http://www.zcafeandbar.com)

Offering unpretentious, contemporary American Bistro cuisine amidst a charming and sophisticated atmosphere just like cafés in Paris, Café Z & Bar changes its menus seasonally to capture flavors at their peak. Dining al fresco also can be enjoyed on our patio. Our wine focus is California, but we offer a selection featuring many regional and international favorites. Wine tasting flights are available daily. Our house mixologist stirs up specialty martinis, flavored mojitos, and exciting fruity house cocktails that delight taste buds in the mood for exotic flavors. Breakfast Mon-Fri 7-10:30 a.m. Lunch Mon-Fri 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Dinner Wed-Sat 5 p.m.-close. Brunch Sun. 9 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Happy Hour Wed-Sat 4-7 p.m.

#### Café Enrico

Since 1978, 875D Island Drive, Alameda, (510) 522-0128

For fine Italian dining at its best, visit Café Enrico overlooking the beautiful Harbor Bay Lagoon. Full bar service features special cocktails daily with exceptional wine selections. From gourmet seafood plates to Old World pastas, chicken dishes, sandwiches and even a dieter's menu, Café Enrico truly offers something to please everyone. In fact, many guests dine in two and three times a week. House specialty steamed (Manila clams and fresh seafood cioppino) are not to be missed. Café Enrico is open daily. Sat & Sun Brunch is served until 3 pm and Early Bird Specials (12.95) are served Mon-Fri until 6 pm and Sat & Sun until 5 pm. For Reservations, please call (510) 522-0129. MC, Visa, AME, handicap access. Casual attire. \$5

#### Juanita's

1324 Park Street, Alameda (510) 865-2588

Juanita's has been serving home style Mexican cooking since 1975 to generations of Bay Area diners. Patrons enjoy a margarita or cold cerveza at Juanita's with their choice of delicious Mexican appetizers and entrees. Including everyone's favorite - tacos, enchiladas, and fajitas. AC \$5 FB W

#### Katsu Sushi

1465 Webster Street, Alameda, (510) 749-8461

West Alameda's newest restaurant, Katsu Sushi, invites guests to an upscale dining experience with classic simplicity. Chef Sang Kim prepares all dishes from scratch and seafood is brought in fresh, directly from Japan. The menu is extensive, ranging from an extraordinary selection of sushi and sashimi, Udon/Soba, Donburi (over rice dishes), to pasta and an impressive variety of sake. Architect Duk Lee has created a dramatic backdrop for guests, marrying modern art with traditional design elements. Attention to even the most minor aesthetic detail is also mirrored in the elegant presentation of Katsu's dishes, offerings that are as much a work of art to the palate as to the eye. Katsu is open for lunch Mon-Fri from 11:30am to 2:30pm and open for dinner Mon-Thurs & Sun from 5:30pm. Fri & Sat 5-10pm. Reservations recommended.

#### Montclair Bistro

6118 Medau Pl., Montclair Village, (510) 482-8282

Chef Henry Vortriede's philosophy of his restaurant, Montclair Bistro, is Metrix Cuisine, which he finds is "a synergy between the food on the table, the art on the walls, and the ambience of the restaurant. The result is a feeling of comfort and harmony between the food and the surroundings." The Bistro's cuisine is Creative California with a French flare and offers gourmet delicacies for even the most discriminating palate. The dining experience is enhanced with a full bar and more than 150 wines and Vintage Ports. Montclair Bistro offers lunch, dinner, Happy Hour and Sunday Brunch. Please visit our ad for hours of operation. Reservations are recommended but not required. Visit [www.montclairbistro.com](http://www.montclairbistro.com).

#### Pier 29 Waterfront Restaurant

300 - 29th Avenue, Oakland (510) 261-1621

Good food, friendly service, and comfortable atmosphere describe Pier 29 Waterfront Restaurant. For over 30 years the restaurant has been located adjacent to the Park Street Bridge overlooking the Alameda/Oakland estuary. The "Pier" offers an extensive menu featuring fresh seafood, Angus New York steak, prime rib, pasta, teriyaki ribs, daily specials, and much more. The theme in the kitchen is "good homestyle cooking." Brunch is served on weekends from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. and the popular early bird menu is featured daily. Every table has a view of the water and there is plenty of free parking. The Pier is open 7 days a week. New business hours: Sun - Thurs 9 a.m. - 10 p.m., Fri - Sat 9 a.m. - 11 p.m. Breakfast - Lunch - Dinner.

#### Sushi House

2375 Shoreline Drive, Alameda (510) 865-0999

When it comes to sushi, one place on the island comes to mind. Come experience why locals & out-of-towners alike flock to Sushi House. Whether you're a fan of modern or traditional Japanese cuisine, Sushi House will delight your senses w/unique, award-winning sushi creations not found elsewhere on either side of the Bay. You've tried the rest. Now try the best! All seafood is delivered daily to ensure unrivaled quality & freshness. Showcasing these excellent beginnings are chef/owner James' own creations such as "Crazy Horse" - tuna, hamachi, salmon & avocado; "Crazy Monkey" - yellow tail, salmon, eel, tobiko and cucumber; & "Dynamite" - yellow tail, salmon, tuna & halibut deep fried w/house special sauce - spicy! Frequent Sushi House diners John & Sally Crittenden agreed that "James is a real artist & his sushi is the freshest we've ever tasted." Sushi House is open nonstop from 11 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. Sunday through Thursday & 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. Friday & Saturday. Plenty of free parking. From an intimate date to a big celebration, Sushi House is the hip & trendy place to be in Alameda! AE MC VS \$5

#### Amarin Thai Cuisine

1332 C Park St., Alameda CA 94501 (510) 748-0296

For 16 years, we have catered to Alameda with delicious, award-winning food and warm service in a friendly atmosphere. Make a normal day, special day, by dining here at Amarin Thai. Celebrate Senior Citizens every Wednesday. We recognize and value your patronage and are offering 10% discount off your dining experience. Celebrate families every Saturday. Our family is very important to us and so is yours! Bring in your family and dine with us and receive a 10% off your meal. Our private banquet facility can accommodate large parties with great service and scrumptious food. Celebrate your holidays at Amarin Thai with Delicious, Inviting, and affordable holiday planning. We are offering 10% off parties of 20 or more on reservations by December 15th.

### Café Enrico

Italian Restaurant

875 Island Dr.,  
Alameda

In Beautiful Harbor Bay  
Landing overlooking lagoon

\$12.95

♦ Fried Chicken ♦  
♦ Broiled Salmon ♦  
♦ Filet of Sole Almondine ♦  
♦ Golden Fried Prawns or Oysters ♦  
♦ Calamari Steak Picatta ♦  
♦ Pork Tenderloin ♦  
♦ Baked Eggplant Parmigiana ♦  
♦ Roasted Leg of Lamb ♦  
♦ Fish Stew ♦  
♦ Bayside Pasta ♦

Lunch: 11am - 2:30pm (M-F) 11am - 3pm (TH-Sun)  
Dinner: 4pm - 9:30pm (M-W) 3pm - 9:30pm (TH-Sun)  
Brunch: 11am - 3pm (Sat-Sun)

Please Call (510) 522-0129 for Reservation



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Lunch

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for lunch or brunch

OR

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\$5 Sangrias - \$6 Cocktails - \$8 Wine Tasting Flights



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Dinner

Mon-Thur & Sun 5-9:30pm

Fri & Sat 5-10pm

(510) 749-8461

1465 Webster Street, Alameda

Reservations Recommended



# THE DINING GUIDE

## Featured Menu

### SIZZLING FAJITAS

Enjoy soup of the day or green salad with your meal.

*"A Tex-Mex special"*

Marinated in our spices, then grilled with garden fresh bell peppers, onions, tomatoes and onions. Served with fresh whole beans, salsa fresca, guacamole, sour cream and your choice of flour or corn tortillas. Served on a hot sizzling platter.

FAJITA (Beef or chicken).....	11.50
STEAK AND CHICKEN FAJITAS.....	11.95
SHRIMP FAJITAS.....	12.95
COMBINATION FAJITAS (Steak, chicken and shrimp).....	12.5
VEGETARIAN FAJITAS.....	9.95

### HUEVOS

Served with Spanish rice, refried beans and seasonal fruit.

HUEVOS SONORA.....	6.95
CHORIZO CON HUEVOS.....	6.95
HUEVOS RANCHEROS.....	6.95
MACHACA CON HUEVOS.....	6.95

### SOUP

CHICKEN TORTILLA SOUP.....	6.95
SOUP OF THE DAY.....	1.75
BOWL OF SOUP.....	4.75

## El Caballo

MEXICAN RESTAURANT

891-B Island Drive  
Alameda, CA 94502  
(510) 521-4032



tomatina

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No Reservations - Alameda - Walnut Creek - Santa Clara

Tomatina Restaurant  
1338 Park St.  
Alameda, CA 510-521-1000

### Kamakura

2549 Santa Clara Ave., Alameda (510) 521-9121

Faith Yamato and the chefs of Kamakura present SHARI, the highest quality of rice that envelopes Sushi. The best short grain premium rice available in the USA is used for Kamakura's Sushi. The "Tamanishiki" brand of rice definitely provides the decisive edge in Sushi quality and taste. Following centuries-old Japanese culinary practice, the rice is gently steamed, then seasoned with an aged-vinegar blend, and carefully fanned to cool to achieve the perfect, firm, yet moist texture, pliable but not sticky; there is no shortcut. For authentic, delectable Sushi and original Japanese creations, dine-in, take-out and party catering, visit or contact Kamakura Restaurant, 2549 Santa Clara Ave., Alameda, (510) 521-9121. Wheelchair access, accepting Visa, MasterCard, AMEX, Discover. Open for Lunch Mon. - Sat. 11:30-2:30; Dinner served daily 5pm-10pm.

### Sophia Cafe

1247 Solano Ave., Albany (510) 526-8663

Sophia Cafe is a tiny haven for Mideast food. Owner Moti Dagan makes entrees and baked goods with a personal touch. For dinner enjoy schnitzel, moussake (sliced eggplant dish with ground beef) or the cous cous plate. Finish with a delightful dessert made in-house. For a limited time, enjoy early bird specials for only \$7.95. Offer valid only with mention of ad from 5-9pm. Take out and catering menus available upon request. Open Sun-Fri 11-9pm.

### La Pinata 3

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**NO MARY POPPINS:** Emma Thompson takes ugly to a new level as the scary-looking title character in "Nanny McPhee," which Sam Honeywood as one of her charges.

# McPhee's spell weak, despite magical cast

By Randy Myers  
STAFF WRITER

Everything about Emma Thompson's "Nanny McPhee" is so charmingly amusing, so gently enchanting and just not enough to take the kids off to bed. Really, it's nothing more than a work-in-progress that master that storytelling. Sorry to say, but Thompson's modest screenplay is at a work-in-progress that master that storytelling. Sorry to say, but Thompson's modest screenplay is at a work-in-progress that master that storytelling. Sorry to say, but Thompson's modest screenplay is at a work-in-progress that master that storytelling.

"McPhee" covers up for the absence of champagne-like moments with some heartfelt and pleasant moments. It also sidesteps getting entangled in the family-film trap of overly sentimental — although it is unexpectedly touching — and avoids listening to how Uni-

## REVIEW

- **WHAT:** "Nanny McPhee"
- **STARRING:** Emma Thompson, Colin Firth, Kelly Macdonald, Angela Lansbury
- **RATING:** PG (mild thematic elements, some rude humor and brief language)
- **RUNNING TIME:** 1 hour, 37 minutes
- **WHERE:** Opens today at area theaters
- **GRADE:** B-

versal is touting it. Despite the studio's declarations that it's a touch dark, "McPhee" is anything but, and is most likely to appeal to the 8-and-under set. Older children will likely fidget and become bored by the juvenile antics, including a huge food fight near the end.

What rescues "McPhee" from being ordinary is its A-list cast, including a birdlike performance from Angela Lansbury, having a great time playing a doddering and filthy rich great-aunt.

Also appealing is Colin Firth

("Bridget Jones's Diary") as the befuddled Mr. Brown, a widower struggling to keep his seven children in line while looking for a new mate, and a harrumphing Thompson as the horrid-looking title character, her lovely face marred by hairy warts, bulbous nose, snaggletooth and a ghastly unibrow. Fortunately, the lovely Emma appears later on, sans that getup, but with magical powers still at work.

Of the seven bratty children, Thomas Sangster of "Love, Actually" creates the greatest impression, meriting the most screen time and acting as the unofficial ringleader of the siblings. Sangster is rascally but charming as Simon, who sees the freshly arrived McPhee, the 18th nanny the children have had so far, as his greatest challenge.

There are other colorful characters, all played by incredible actors who walk onto the lovely interiors of the family house and are given little to do. "Vera Drake's" Imelda Staunton, looking like the frazzled godmother of Ronald McDonald, gets into

the huffy spirit of playing the family's militaristic cook, but Thompson keeps her on too tight a leash.

That choke-collar approach applies to Derek Jacobi, wasted as one of two helpers at Mr. Brown's funeral parlor, and the luminous Kelly Macdonald ("Trainspotting") as a scullery maid with a heart of gold and an underwritten role.

The one actor who rises above the material is Celia Imrie as the Baby Jane-looking Mrs. Quickly, who finds the notion of marrying Mr. Brown mighty appealing when she learns of that rich great-aunt. Mrs. Quickly is a low-class bit of opportunistic work, with her canary-yellow hair, tacky clothing and heaving bosom. Whenever she sweeps onto the scene, "McPhee" becomes wickedly fun. And when she exits, the movie retreats, once again, to being merely pleasant.

Reach Randy Myers at [rmyers@cctimes.com](mailto:rmyers@cctimes.com) or at 925-977-8419.

## NORTHERN CALIFORNIA BEST SELLERS

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### Fiction

1. "The Da Vinci Code," by Dan Brown. (Doubleday, \$24.95.)
2. "Memories of My Melancholy Whores," by Gabriel Garcia Marquez. (Knopf, \$20.)
3. "On Beauty," by Zadie Smith. (Penguin, \$25.95.)
4. "The Lighthouse," by P.D. James. (Knopf, \$25.95.)
5. "S is for Silence," by Sue Grafton. (Putnam, \$26.95.)
6. "The Brooklyn Follies," by Paul Auster. (Holt, \$24.)
7. "The March," by E.L. Doctorow. (Random House, \$25.95.)
8. "Saving Fish From Drowning," by Amy Tan. (Putnam, \$26.95.)
9. "Arthur & George," by Julian Barnes. (Knopf, \$24.95.)
10. "The Accidental," by Ali Smith. (Pantheon, \$22.95.)

### Nonfiction

1. "The Year of Magical Thinking," by Joan Didion. (Knopf, \$23.95.)
2. "Freakonomics," by Steven Levitt and Stephen Dubner. (William Morrow, \$25.95.)
3. "Our Endangered Values," by Jimmy Carter. (Simon & Schuster, \$25.)
4. "The World Is Flat," by Thomas L. Friedman. (Farrar, Straus & Giroux, \$27.50.)
5. "Marley & Me," by John Grogan. (William Morrow, \$21.95.)
6. "State of War," by James Risen. (Free Press, \$26.)
7. "The Elements of Style, Illustrated," by William Strunk and E.B. White, illustrated by Maira Kalman. (Penguin, \$24.95.)
8. "Blink," by Malcolm Gladwell. (Little, Brown, \$25.95.)
9. "The Silver Spoon," by (Phaidon, \$39.95.)
10. "Team of Rivals," by Doris Kearns Goodwin. (Simon & Schuster, \$35.)

### Trade paperback fiction

1. "The Kite Runner," by Khaled Hosseini. (Riverhead, \$14.)

2. "Gilead," by Marilynne Robinson. (Picador, \$14.)
3. "Brokeback Mountain," by Annie Proulx. (Scribner, \$9.95.)
4. "Runaway," by Alice Munro. (Vintage, \$14.95.)
5. "Memoirs of a Geisha," by Arthur Golden. (Vintage, \$14.95.)
6. "Kafka on the Shore," by Haruki Murakami. (Vintage, \$14.95.)
7. "Snow," by Orhan Pamuk. (Vintage, \$14.95.)
8. "Prep," by Curtis Sittenfeld. (Random House, \$13.95.)
9. "Case Histories," by Kate Atkinson. (Back Bay, \$13.95.)
10. "The Shadow of the Wind," by Carlos Ruiz Zafon. (Penguin, \$15.)

### Trade paperback nonfiction

1. "A Million Little Pieces," by James Frey. (Anchor, \$14.95.)
2. "Collapse," by Jared Diamond. (Penguin, \$17.)
3. "Confessions of an Economic Hit Man," by John Perkins. (Plume, \$15.)
4. "Animals in Translation," by Temple Grandin and Catherine Johnson. (Harvest, \$15.)
5. "The End of Faith," by Sam Harris. (Norton, \$13.95.)
6. "In Cold Blood," by Truman Capote. (Vintage, \$14.)
7. "Guns, Germs, and Steel," by Jared Diamond. (Norton, \$16.95.)
8. "The Tipping Point," by Malcolm Gladwell. (Back Bay, \$14.95.)
9. "365: No Repeats," by Rachael Ray. (Clarkson Potter, \$19.95.)
10. "San Francisco Bay Area Restaurants," by the editors of Zagat Survey. (Zagat, \$13.95.)

### Mass market paperback

1. "The Broker," by John Grisham. (Dell, \$7.99.)
2. "The Motive," by John Lescroart. (Signet, \$7.99.)
3. "State of Fear," by Michael Crichton. (Avon, \$7.99.)
4. "Double Tap," by Steve Martini. (Jove, \$7.99.)
5. "Memoirs of a Geisha," by Arthur Golden. (Vintage, \$7.99.)

— Northern California Independent Booksellers Association

## 'Desire'

FROM PAGE C10

simplicistic they seem in comparison: "And now you're a cat! And now you're a tiger!"

Marno, 25, is not that long out of acting class. She graduated from Yale Drama School last year with a master of fine arts degree in acting, and her credits there include Cleopatra in Shakespeare's "Antony and Cleopatra" and Eleanor in "King John." She has performed with Yale Repertory Theatre and the Guthrie Theatre Lab in Minneapolis.

Originally from Los Angeles, she attended boarding school on the East Coast, lived in France for a year, then Berlin. She graduated from Barnard College in New York and spent another year there before entering Yale.

Marno is Iranian-American, and while she doesn't want to discuss her own cultural background in relation to "9 Parts of Desire," she understands Raffo's American perspective on events in Iraq. "I certainly feel I can connect with the idea of straddling two cultures," she says.

The kaleidoscopic politics of "9 Parts of Desire" may be unsettling to Berkeley audiences assuming it's an anti-war play. "Bush foes expecting a polem-

ical broadside will be disappointed," wrote Charles Isherwood, reviewing Raffo's performance in the New York Times. "There is plenty here to fuel outrage at the suffering of Iraqi citizens directly caused by American bombing. But Raffo's women also bear witness to the monstrousness of Saddam Hussein's regime."

"It's not a particularly anti-war play at all," Marno says. Adds Settle, "What the production does is present a lot of perspectives. In the end, the play is about the lives of these women."

Marno's challenge is to keep the nine characters vivid for six weeks of performances, alone on the stage for 90 minutes, after weeks of rehearsals.

In a way, she's looking forward to the opening after the intense rehearsal period. "It's definitely strange — there's no downtime," she says. "I've been in rehearsals for six or eight hours straight, but not acting the whole time. An hour and a half is different."

"It's like a theatrical marathon," Marno says. "You just have to take amazing care of yourself. I'm in bed, on my way to sleep, at 11:30 every night. I get vitamin C by the bucket-full."

Reach Robert Taylor at 925-977-8428 or [taylor@cctimes.com](mailto:taylor@cctimes.com).

## derma

PAGE C10

er composed the "Piano Concerto" in 1964 and 1965, and dedicated to Igor Stravinsky on the occasion of his 85th birthday. It was premiered in 1965 and Stravinsky called it "a piece."

Stravinsky's iconoclastic "Rite of Spring," with its dissonance, rhythms and changing characters, fascinated the Carter, who grew up in the 1920s going to popular music concerts, and one that has remained with

er's "Piano Concerto" — one of his music — is not accessible to newcomers. Berkeley Symphony patrons are to be challenged by modern music and commissions pieces that frequent the programs of conductor Nagano.

his is maximal music. A can't get all of what's in the first time they hear Kuderna.

es and the public have some of Carter's music, the "Piano Concerto,"

er, for his part, has no de-

stood by the public, as he told one of his admirers, The Grateful Dead's Phil Lesh, in an interview.

"I'm not interested in being comprehensible in the sense that some composers are. Our public is too diffuse and too uncertain and too unclear to bother too much about what they think at any given moment."

In the nearly 40 years since the "Piano Concerto," Carter has kept composing, won a second Pulitzer Prize, and today, at 97, he is still writing new pieces, including "Dialogues for Piano and Orchestra" from 2003.

Kuderna didn't particularly like the "Piano Concerto" after he heard its premiere recording. "I couldn't really warm up to it. I wanted to warm to it, but I had problems with it."

But almost 40 years later, Kuderna brings great enthusiasm to the piece. "It wasn't a given I was going to fall in love with it. It's taken me all these years — and I have had the score since back then — to really want to play it badly enough to have the opportunity come up."

Kuderna has practiced the "Piano Concerto" for the better part of a year since Nagano called him in April 2005 and asked him whether he'd play it this season. "You don't learn a piece like this

unless you have a performance in the offing," says Kuderna. The amount of time that it takes to get it into your fingers and your system is way beyond what it takes to learn classical piano concertos of Beethoven or Brahms, says Kuderna.

"I've been working on it, and I'm convinced even the really fast music should somehow sound as if it's in slow motion," says Kuderna, who must play music slow one moment and as fast as possible the next.

There are points where the music almost comes to a standstill, even though there are still a fair amount of events going on. "It's sort of like being in the middle of Times Square, and with all this activity going, seeing a balloon float over your head," says Kuderna.

Kuderna and George Thomson, associate conductor of the Berkeley Symphony, have poured over the dense score in preparation for the performance. "It resists any sense of routine. And a routine performance of it will kill it," says Kuderna. "It does everything it can to put you on edge. It's like life. Life doesn't work according to routine."

"It's the most intricate piece I've ever conducted, mostly due to the tempo changes. Every tempo change is a mistake wait-

ing to happen."

The "Piano Concerto" is often depicted as a battle to the death between the piano and the orchestra. The orchestra is seen as the authority figure and the piano as the protagonist.

"It's very crunchy," Thomson said. "There's impact, pressure and collision all the time. The piano gets beat up by this monolithic orchestra. The orchestra is basically saying 'no.'"

Carter does not leave the unruly protagonist to fend for himself. He provides the soloist with a group of cohorts who extend the sound of the piano, to help it resist the orchestra's power.

These seven wind and string players are called the concertino and sit nearest the piano. At a rehearsal this week, Thomson quipped, "You're the tips to his Glady's," as he pointed at the concertino's members and gestured back at Kuderna.

The piano has the first and last word of the 26-minute "Piano Concerto." "You're born alone and you die alone," says Kuderna. "It's kind of like Moby Dick. The piano does survive to tell the story."

Besides Carter's "Piano Concerto," Thomson will also lead the Berkeley Symphony in music of Bach, Varèse and Stravinsky.

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# Arts & Leisure

Friday, January 27, 2006



J.B. ALDERMAN  
On DVDs

## 'Grimm' tale not worth time

**THE BROTHERS GRIMM**  
Despite the title, this DVD isn't appropriate for young kids, and despite the heart-throb actors, it also offers little for the rest of us. Set in 19th century Germany, the film stars Matt Damon and Heath Ledger (who looks painfully unbarbed) as ghost-busting scam artists who unexpectedly encounter real witches, magic and mayhem. This DVD showcases a linguistic conundrum that has haunted me since I first started seeing black-and-white war films on late-night television 30 years ago: Why do actors playing Germans speak with English accents? The French characters in "Grimm" managed to have passable French accents. Is a guttural German lilt that challenging for everyone but the cast of "Hogan's Heroes"? It's likely I'll never know, but spare yourself from seeing Damon from doing his Anglo-Teutonic brogue. (PG-13: Violence). 1 hour and 58 minutes.

**Ratings (out of 4 stars):**  
Overall: 2 stars  
Kids: N/A  
Teens: 3 stars  
Adults: 2 stars  
Seniors: 1½ stars  
**Should you rent it?** No — scary fairy tales warped into a dull action film.

## MY BIG FAT INDEPENDENT MOVIE

A simultaneous love letter and obscene phone call to America's best-known independent films, this DVD is crude, rude and hysterical. The key to liking this movie is to have seen at least a majority of the dozen-plus independent films that are spoofed throughout the DVD. It also helps if you don't think of these standard-setting indie films as renaissance works of art to be hung behind bullet-proof glass in a hushed museum. The cast is largely, and appropriately, unknown, though some will recognize Paget Brewster, who does a superb job mocking Julia Roberts. The plot is silly (a corned beef sandwich plays a major role), but that doesn't matter much because it's darn funny. (R: Language). 1 hour and 20 minutes.

**Ratings (out of 4 stars):**  
Overall: 3 stars  
Kids: N/A  
Teens: 2½ stars  
Adults: 3 stars  
Seniors: 1½ stars  
**Should you rent it?** Yes — clever, funny, small film that pokes fun at every other small film.

## THE BEST OF THE ELECTRIC COMPANY

If your childhood passed through the 1970s, as mine did, you undoubtedly spent time sitting cross-legged on the floor in front of the television watching this iconic PBS show.

This boxed set includes some of the best episodes in the show's multiyear run, including the first show from 1971. The skit-packed show brought major star power to the airwaves, with series regulars such as Berkeley resident Rita Moreno, Bill Cosby and Morgan Freeman. Seeing Freeman playing a singing character called "Easy Rider" inspired by the epic counterculture film "Easy Rider" is both amusing and mildly odd. Designed to help kids learn how to read, the series holds up remarkably well today (despite some psychedelic interludes). (Unrated, all ages). 10 hours and 30 minutes.

**Ratings (out of 4 stars):**  
Overall: 3 stars  
Kids: 3½ stars  
Teens: 1 star  
Adults: 3 stars  
Seniors: 2½ stars  
**Should you rent it?** Yes — a funny, educational show perfect for kindergartners.

J.B. Alderman lives in Piedmont and can be reached via [www.PhDVD.com](http://www.PhDVD.com).



MOZHAN MARNO portrays nine Iraqi female characters in "9 Parts of Desire," which opened Wednesday at Berkeley Repertory Theatre.

# A desire to rise to the challenge

## Berkeley Rep's one-woman play has one breathing life into nine

By Robert Taylor  
STAFF WRITER

Mozhan Marno stretches in the rigid office chair, a paper cup of tea in hand, remarkably at ease about what she's facing for the next six weeks on Berkeley Rep's stage.

"I don't know if the challenges are any different with this part than any other part," she says.

Except it's nine parts, more than 40 transformations among them, and she's the only performer onstage for nearly an hour and a half in the Berkeley Rep production of "9 Parts of Desire," which opened Wednesday.

What's more, Marno was cast to replace the play's author, Heather Raffo, who won rave notices when she performed the one-woman show in New York. Raffo was originally scheduled for Berkeley Rep but injured her back during the Los Angeles run last fall, according to director Joanna Settle.

"It's always been our intention that the play is not 'Heather on Tour,'" Settle says. "It has a life

## INTERVIEW

■ **WHO:** Mozhan Marno

■ **WHAT:** Starring in "9 Parts of Desire" by Heather Raffo, directed by Joanna Settle

■ **WHERE:** Berkeley Repertory Theatre, Thrust Stage, 2025 Addison St., Berkeley

■ **WHEN:** Runs through March 5. 8 p.m. Tuesdays and Fridays, 7 p.m. Wednesdays, 2 and 8 p.m. Thursdays and Saturdays, 2 and 7 p.m. Sundays. No matinees Feb. 4, 9, 18, 23.

■ **HOW MUCH:** \$45-\$59; preview, \$30.

■ **CONTACT:** 510-647-2978, [www.berkeleyrep.org](http://www.berkeleyrep.org).

of its own. It's been thrilling as a director working with Mozhan, for her to read the script and make her own interpretation. She brings it to life with fresh eyes. She's fantastic."

Raffo is the American daughter of an Iraq-born father, and her play depicts nine Iraqi women and

girls. They include a woman who listens to both the sound of M-16 rifles and the sound of her mother's voice. One is a woman who is transitioning. Each is a woman who is a survivor of the Gulf War. The play is drawn from Raffo's family in Iraq. The play is drawn from more than 10 years of interviews with Iraqi-Americans and the Raffo met during a 1991 Baghdad.

"When we started focused on one character," Marno says. "What's so is transitioning. Each is so distinct, and you're audience on this journey."

The transformations times like the quick editing, with no time to ease into another mind-set. "Sometimes to manufacture it, she says, 'even before you She recalls dramatic exercises and rolls her eyes."

See 'DESIRE,' Page C9



GREGORY URQUIAGA/STAFF

**FOR THE BERKELEY RUN**, directed by Joanna Settle, right, Marno, left, takes over the role originated by author Heather Raffo.

## Pianist to take on Carter's concerto

■ **Berkeley's Kuderna** chooses a challenging, rarely performed piece by the Pulitzer Prize-winning American composer

By Keith Gleason  
CORRESPONDENT

When Berkeley pianist Jerry Kuderna was a student at The Juilliard School in 1967, he had a brief encounter with American composer Elliott Carter, whose rarely heard "Piano Concerto" Kuderna will play with the Berkeley Symphony Orchestra on Saturday night at Zellerbach Hall.

The Juilliard School in New York was and is a famous music conservatory for performers, but it also had well-known modern composers in the 1960s, including Carter. Carter wrote music that lacked traditional melody and a tonal center.

Kuderna had already studied pieces by Arnold Schoenberg, the father of 12-tone music, when he arrived at Juilliard, and knew of

## IF YOU GO

■ **WHAT:** Berkeley Symphony Orchestra. George Thomson, conductor

■ **WHEN:** 8 p.m. Saturday

■ **WHERE:** Zellerbach Hall, UC Berkeley

■ **PROGRAM:** Johann Sebastian Bach, Brandenburg Concerto No. 3; Elliott Carter, Piano Concerto; Jerry Kuderna, piano; Edgar Varèse, Octandre Stravinsky, Firebird Suite (1919) A pre-concert talk with Thomson and Kuderna will begin at 7 p.m.

■ **HOW MUCH:** \$23-\$54

■ **CONTACT:** Call 510-841-2800 or go to [www.berkeley-symphony.org](http://www.berkeley-symphony.org).

Carter's only piano sonata, which was written in 1945 and was close to atonal music. He began working on Carter's sonata shortly after he arrived at Juilliard.

"After I'd worked on it about a year, I realized I should take advantage of Carter and play it

for him," says Kuderna. But he lacked the courage to introduce himself to the famous composer.

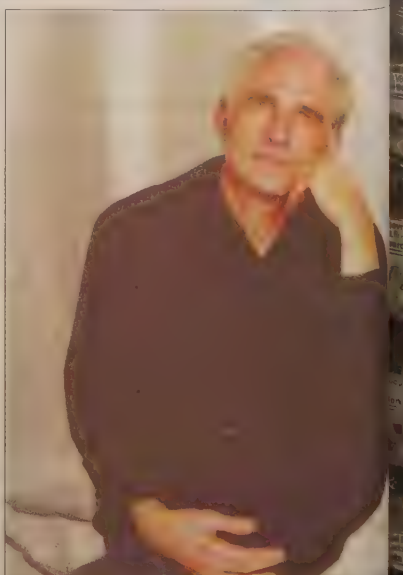
Carter had a small studio at Juilliard. One day Kuderna took up inside a practice room across the hall from it, leaving open one of the double doors to the practice room.

He began playing the sonata. At one point, Carter opened the door, stuck out his head, and said: "I thought I heard something that sounded familiar." And that was how I met him," recalls Kuderna.

Carter liked Kuderna's playing but said he was no longer writing music like the sonata. Indeed, Carter had moved on to characteristically atonal and rhythmically complex music after 1950.

By the late 1960s, Carter was already recognized as an important innovator of 20th century music, having been awarded the Pulitzer Prize for Music in 1960 for his ground-breaking contributions to the string quartet genre.

See KUDERNA, Page C9



**BERKELEY PIANIST** Jerry Kuderna will perform Elliott Carter's challenging "Piano Concerto" at Zellerbach Hall on Saturday.



# Friday Auto Plus

cars.com

ing supplement to The Montclair, The Piedmonter, The Berkeley Voice, The Journal, The Alameda Journal

Friday, January 27, 2006

Section D

## Chevrolet expands the SS line to an affordable midsize Malibu

BY CONNIE KEANE  
MOTOR MATTERS

got a great wagon that is stylish, great performer, and comes with a lot of "Super Sport" car design. It's the Malibu Maxx SS.

Malibu lineup is one of Chevrolet's comprehensive varieties of offerings for a car brand with a total of eight models. It includes the Malibu sedan and Malibu Maxx in LS, LT, LTZ and, new for 2006, the Malibu Maxx SS.

Malibu Maxx looks like a wagon, but Chevrolet calls it an "extended sedan," not too many people are likely to know about Chevy's extended sedan featuring 18-inch wheels.

Number of revisions have been made to the 2006 Malibu; the biggest among them is the introduction of the SS sedan. The SS has its own front-end design and unique exterior features including 18-inch wheels.

SS stands for Super Sport and is synonymous with prestige and power for Chevrolet. The heritage of SS branding dates back to 1957 when the Corvette prototype was introduced at the Sebring race track, and later on the Impala in 1961. In a precedent move, Chevrolet has named some of its 2006 vehicles with SS, including SSR, Cobalt SS, Cobalt SS, Impala SS, Monte Carlo SS, TrailBlazer SS, Malibu SS and Malibu Maxx SS.

SS-driven customers now have an easy way to own an SS-performance car. My tester was the Malibu Maxx with a base price of \$24,065. The only option on the test wagon was the \$325 anti-theft radio service. With destination and the as-tested price came to \$24,390.

It was a stylish wagon with lots of exterior appeal. The sporty visual appeal, rear spoiler located above the tailgate and the blunt-chopped liftgate gave it a sharp visual focus. The 18-inch wheels and touring tires convey a message that this was a serious sport car.

My buyer expects a wagon to de-



THE MAXX LOOKS LIKE A wagon, but Chevrolet calls it an "extended sedan."

### KEANE ON WHEELS

liver performance and utility. The Malibu Maxx SS tester was a fun-handling wagon all around town and along twisty roads. The 3.9-liter V6 provided solid and satisfying performance when applying the accelerator and the brakes.

The Malibu Maxx SS produces 240 horsepower and 240 pounds-foot of torque. Gas ratings on this midsize vehicle are more like figures of full-size sedans: 18 miles per gallon city and 26 mpg highway.

The second-row seats slide forward to allow for more cargo carrying in the rear. If back seat passengers want to recline, these 60/40 split-folding Malibu Maxx SS seats do that too, with a release on the lever at the base of the seat. The cargo section features a stackable tray with cargo netting for securing a number of items, including food for the tailgate party. The stackable

### CHEVROLET MALIBU MAXX SS

Vehicle Type	Five-passenger, front-wheel drive, midsize wagon
Suggested Retail	\$24,065
Price As Tested	\$25,015
Engine Type	12-valve OHV V6 w/SMPFI
Horsepower	240 @ 5,800 rpm
Torque	240 @ 2,800 rpm
Transmission	Four-speed automatic
Wheelbase	112 inches
Height	58 inches
Curb Weight	3,620 pounds
Fuel Capacity	16 gallons
Mileage	City/highway 18/26

tray has a center leg that attaches to the floor of the liftgate to form a picnic table for serving food and drinks.

Two other engines are offered on the 2006 Malibu: a 2.2-liter four-cylinder and a 3.5-liter V6. The LS and LT sedans are

equipped with the 144-horsepower four-cylinder engine. The 201-horsepower V6 is standard on the Malibu and the LTZ sedan. Also new on the entire Malibu lineup are updated interior trims, new four-spoke steering wheel, body-color side molding with

chrome accent, rear door child locks and low-beam daytime running lights.

As big as the Malibu lineup is right now with eight configurations, the inside buzz is that the Malibu Maxx may be discontinued. The Malibu Maxx may truly be a limited edition for anyone looking for an affordable specialty car.

### INSIDE

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# Overhauled 1928 Buick now goes 60 mph

BY VERN PARKER  
MOTOR MATTERS

Shortly after World War II, Jacob Blaufarb bought some acreage in the Poconos near Bushkill, Pa. With the land came a 1928 Buick, which the owner had purchased new.

Until his death in 1972, Blaufarb's place was a favorite summer vacation site for his six grandchildren. One of those six, Dave Blaufarb, can still recall piling into the old Buick with his siblings and cousins for a ride down to the nearby Delaware River for summertime fun.

Early on, his overriding interest in the Buick became apparent to the entire family. That's why nobody was surprised in 1967 when his grandfather gave him the car. Young Blaufarb was 16 at the time.

The odometer had not yet reached the 60,000-mile mark. Even so, the then-39-year-old six-cylinder engine wouldn't run. "I hadn't a clue what I was doing," Blaufarb admits as he threw himself at the task of taking the car apart. "My skill level was pretty rudimentary."

After a year or two, he delivered the 207-cubic-inch block to a machine shop, along with boxes of parts that had been inside the engine. The machine shop ground the valves, shaped up the engine and

## CLASSIC CLASSICS

got it running.

With the Buick running, Blaufarb's father insisted that he replace the plate-glass windshield with safety glass and overhaul the mechanical brakes.

"My dad bought four new tires," Blaufarb says. "He was into safety stuff." Blaufarb went off to college, after which life got in the way. In the summer of 1977 he rented a trailer and hauled his Buick to a West Virginia farm his father owned.

His grandfather had long ago discarded the entire top, so Blaufarb had new oak bows fabricated, along with the chrome-plated top irons.

By 1979, the engine, with the help of a rebuilt Marvel updraft carburetor, was once more smoothly producing 63 horsepower. The Buick was then reduced to a pile of parts preparatory to restoration. Soon the rolling chassis looked like new with the engine and transmission in place. In the autumn of 1991, the Buick was hauled to a body shop for last-minute work on the scarred fenders and painting.

The body color is Talena brown and the fenders are black. The five-

line pinstripe starts with a stripe of gold and a stripe of vermilion on either side, concluding with stripes of trailgreen on the outer edges.

The 12-spoke wooden wheels are made of second-growth hickory, Blaufarb reports. Eight pieces of walnut make up the rim of the steering wheel. The four spokes of the wheel, he says, are aluminum. Around the horn button at the hub of the wheel are three levers, the bottom one controlling the lights, the left lever the spark advance and the right one the hand throttle.

On the dashboard are the wiper control, choke and carburetor heat control. In the center is the speedometer calibrated to 80 mph. "It will go 60," Blaufarb affirms. The single-action hydraulic Lovejoy shock absorbers help make the ride pleasant.

Of the 235,008 Buicks built in 1928, only 3,134 were the standard Model 25 Sport Touring car. Each car had a base price of \$1,225.

"The top went on last," Blaufarb says, "in 2000."

If Blaufarb's Buick were equipped with optional bumpers it would be a bit more than 14 feet long. As it is, the length is slightly less than 14 feet. Regardless, the entire rig rides on a 115-inch wheelbase with a 9.25-inch



DAVE BLAUFARB'S OVERRIDING INTEREST in the 1928 Buick was apparent to his entire family. Nobody was surprised when his grandfather gave him the car in 1967.

ground clearance.

"He was a Buick guy," Blaufarb says of his grandfather. Thinking back to those long ago summers in Pennsylvania, he says, "When we

open the garage door I can still see light reflect off the flat glass and smell the gasoline and leather."

For your car to become the subject of the Classic Classics column,

send a photo (frontal 3/4 view), brief details and phone number to Vern Parker, 2221 Abbott Road, Vienna, VA 22181. Only good quality will be considered.

# Use duct tape to pinpoint source of wind noise

BY JUNIOR DAMATO  
MOTOR MATTERS

**Dear Doctor:** I own a 2005 Toyota Corolla. I first noticed a high pitch squeal that seems to be coming from the dash area driving on the highway in April. The noise happens at speeds 75 to 80 mph. If I slow down to 60 mph, the sound disappears. I asked the dealer to check out the condition and they could not duplicate it. They did offer to let me take a technician on the road but the noise does not always happen. I did install some window air deflectors. Have you ever heard of such occasional sounds? — Donna

**Dear Donna:** Wind noise at high speeds is a common complaint on many vehicles. Wind noise can come from many areas, including side mirrors, side antenna by the windshield, windshield moldings, even the front grille. To try and pinpoint wind

## AUTO DOCTOR

noise, the noise needs to be consistent, not just occasional. Start by using a gray duct tape between the various areas to test for wind sound elimination. Remove the duct tape right away so it does not leave any residue on the surface.

**Dear Doctor:** I own a 1999 Mercury Grand Marquis. At 59,000 miles, the red light indicating overheating came on so I had the thermostat replaced. Now I have to add coolant to the system. Current mileage is now at 65,000 miles. The shop mechanic does not seem concerned. I never had to add coolant before the thermostat replacement. What do you think? — Paul

**Dear Paul:** Have another shop look at the vehicle, inspecting for any signs of coolant leakage.

Leaking plastic intake manifolds are very common problems on these engines. Whenever adding coolant, make sure you mix the new coolant to a 50/50 mixture.

**Dear Doctor:** I own a 1993 Plymouth Sundance that was in great condition. But now the right side blinker stopped working and the left side stays on dim when I try the left directional. I replaced the bulbs, but they still do not work. — Henry

**Dear Henry:** There could be both a weak directional flasher, as well as a poor ground circuit in the rear tail light socket. Before all the old Chrysler front drive cars rotted away, we used to replace many rear tail light sockets and add or repair the ground connection. Very seldom was the front blinker or parking light socket the problem.

**Dear Doctor:** I own a 2001 Chrysler Sebring convertible. Inadvertently, I pulled out fuse No.

5 for the radio. I put the fuse back in and now the radio does not work. The radio equalizer lights blink, the CD player will load and unload the disc. What do you suggest? — Robert

**Dear Robert:** Check if your radio is an anti-theft type that requires a code to work anytime battery power is cut. A quick look in the owner's manual or trip to the dealer or any local auto radio shop should help.

**Dear Doctor:** We own a 2001 Ford Taurus with 40,000 miles. For the last several months, each time we fill the fuel tank the engine seems to buck for a few miles, then straightens out. If I only go to half full, the problem does not occur. I had the fuel pump replaced six months ago. We are only surmising that it has something to do with filling the gas tank to a full level. — Marty

**Dear Marty:** Fill the tank and take the car to a repair shop while the engine is acting up. At this point the technician can hook up a scan tool and fuel pressure tester. Then by looking at Alldata information on the scan tool, he can check fuel pressure. There could be a problem with the evap system that is connected from the fuel tank vent system to the engine intake system. The purpose of the system is to remove gas vapors from the fuel tank and burn them in the engine. There could be a problem in the rear charcoal canister or switching valves. A faulty evap system does not always set the check engine light.

**Dear Doctor:** We own two Ford vehicles; one is a motorhome. Both require 5W/20 engine oil. Can we just change over to either 5W/30 or 10W/30 oil? Why do they say 5W/20? — Ralph

**Dear Ralph:** Car manufacturers are designing engines to use the thinner, lighter oil because it produces better gas mileage and has longer change intervals. You're not

alone with the 5W/20 oil. In very cold climates, the viscosity rating is now 0W/20. Using the recommended oil could void the warranty if an internal engine failure theory that heavy is better. Today's engine oil is better and offer more protection before.

**Dear Doctor:** I own a GMC Suburban 4x4 with 100,000 miles and a 2002 GMC Duramax diesel with 106,000 miles. Fuel mileage on both is poor. I'm thinking of switching to synthetic oil. — Allen

**Dear Allen:** Full synth will usually improve at mile per gallon. The extra synthetic washes out with extra gas mileage and longer val changes. Other increasing mileage restriction exhaust and fresh intake air system.

Send questions to: Auto 3 Court Circle, Lakeville, MN

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Bill Nelson Disc \$3,500  
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Instant Value Cert. \$1,000  
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FOR GMC TOLL FREE 877-453-9220

**2006 VIBE** **AUTOMATIC**

Sale Price \$17,032  
Factory Rebate \$500

**NET COST \$16,532**

**2006 LACROSSE** **ON STAR, AC, CD**

**SALE PRICE \$20,984**

**2005 MONTANA SV6** **LOADED**

Sale Price \$27,453  
Factory Rebate \$3,500

**NET COST \$23,953**

**2005 YUKON 2WD** **LEATHER, MOON ROOF, DVD**

Sale Price \$40,778  
Factory Rebate \$8,000

**NET COST \$32,778**

**2005 YUKON 4WD** **LEATHER, MOON ROOF, DVD**

Sale Price \$44,094  
Factory Rebate \$8,000

**NET COST \$36,094**

**2005 DENALI** **MOON ROOF, DVD, NAVIGATION**

Sale Price \$48,787  
Factory Rebate \$8,000

**NET COST \$40,787**

3230 Auto Plaza, Richmond  
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FOR CHEVROLET TOLL FREE 877-259-5119

**2006 COBALT** **5 SPEED, CD, SPOILER**

1 at this price #C0208/730164

**SALE PRICE \$13,279**

**2006 HHR** **5 SPEED, AC, CD**

1 at this price #C0290/542399

**SALE PRICE \$14,495**

**2006 COLORADO** **5 SPEED**

1 at this price #C0264/216002

**SALE PRICE \$15,007**

**2005 SUBURBAN** **CD, ON STAR**

1 at this price #B0774/276953

**SALE PRICE \$27,499**

**2006 SILVERADO** **FWD, 2500 DIESEL**

1 at this price #C0098/128056

**SALE PRICE \$31,675**

**2006 AVALANCHE** **4WD, Z71**

1 at this price #C0131/101303

**SALE PRICE \$31,999**

7123 Redwood Blvd. in Novato  
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**Mercedes-Benz of Oakland**

**2006 SLK 280**

Starting at \$40,995 <sup>15 in Stock</sup>  
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**2006 C230**

Lease \$199 mo. +tax for 27 months  
2 at this offer #875624, 876059

**2006 E350**

Lease \$349 mo. +tax for 27 months  
1 at this offer #792969

**2006 CLS500** <sup>15 In Stock</sup>

Lease \$799 mo. +tax for 51 months  
1 at this offer #052624

All advertised prices exclude government fees & taxes, any finance charges any dealer document preparation charge, and any emissions testing charge. All offers expire 2/2/06

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**New 2006 Chrysler PT CRUISER** **\$11,995**  
3 AT THIS PRICE #275037, #261685. \*Must finance thru Chrysler Financial

**New 2006 Chrysler TOWN & COUNTY** **\$14,995**  
1 AT THIS PRICE #541093. \*Must finance thru Chrysler Financial

**New 2005 Jeep GRAND CHEROKEE LIMITED** **\$10,000 OFF MSRP**  
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## WEEKLY SALES

### ALAMEDA

4 Avocet Ct - \$550,000  
110 Brunswick Rd - \$975,000  
2001 Glenview St - \$786,500  
2003 Glenview St - \$823,500  
2101 Glenview St - \$847,000  
428 Greenbrier Rd - \$725,000  
211 Hollister Av - \$919,000  
219 Hollister Av - \$852,000  
220 Hollister Av - \$867,000  
221 Hollister Av - \$930,500  
237 Hollister Av - \$865,000  
2426 Lincoln Av K - \$437,000  
1437 Morton St H - \$325,000  
950 Shorepoint 102 - \$355,000  
1006 Taylor Av - \$560,000  
12 Thurles Pl - \$939,000  
2530 Washington - \$732,000

### ALBANY

520 Cornell Av - \$570,000  
988 Kains Av - \$429,000  
1014 Ordway St - \$500,000  
1049 Ordway - \$775,000  
535 Pierce St 3200 - \$470,000  
1015 Ramona Av - \$1,122,500  
617 Santa Fe - \$700,000

### BERKELEY

1607 62nd St - \$450,000  
1455 8th St - \$660,500  
1011 Channing Wy - \$408,000  
3040 Dohr St - \$630,000  
864 Ensenada Av - \$800,000  
1239 Evelyn Av - \$360,000  
1410 Milvia St - \$814,000  
2411 Oregon St - \$482,000  
652 Peralta Av - \$560,000  
1416 Russell St - \$485,000  
2228 Sacramento - \$472,500  
2423 Spaulding - \$540,000

### EL CERRITO

6501 Barrett Av - \$975,000  
246 Carmel Av - \$600,000  
7407 Errol Dr - \$710,000  
7500 Errol Dr - \$660,000  
417 Lexington Av - \$510,000  
1725 Liberty St 2 - \$334,000  
620 Seaview Dr - \$620,000

875 Shevlin Dr - \$1,100,500  
6718 Snowdon Av - \$435,000

### EL SOBRANTE

638 Franklin Ln - \$710,000  
21 Greenbrae Ct - \$580,000  
5604 Sobrante Av - \$525,000

### EMERYVILLE

1206 66th St - \$679,000  
1208 66th St - \$658,000  
1212 66th St - \$724,000  
1220 66th St - \$670,000  
1224 66th St - \$645,000  
1165 67th St - \$640,000  
10 Co'odore C1 - \$570,000

### KENSINGTON

24 Highgate Ct - \$1,030,000  
199 Purdue Av - \$685,000

### OAKLAND

1107 101st Av - \$460,000  
1344 102nd Av - \$390,000  
2125 102nd Av - \$400,000  
1363 103rd Av - \$455,000  
2635 106th Av - \$405,000  
555 10th St 425 - \$464,000  
655 12th St 113 - \$477,000  
655 12th St 318 - \$466,000  
1620 18th Av - \$499,000  
828 21st St - \$400,000  
937 26th St - \$446,000  
1690 28th St - \$574,000  
831 28th St - \$635,000  
726 31st St - \$445,000  
1218 37th Av - \$550,000  
3712 39th Av - \$500,000  
3831 39th Av - \$445,000  
945 39th Av - \$580,000  
699 46th St - \$640,000  
920 54th Av A - \$380,000

1304 54th Av - \$439,000  
531 55th St - \$489,000  
2560 61st Av - \$380,000  
1625 64th Av - \$390,000  
1640 64th Av - \$585,000  
1840 68th Av - \$370,000  
1739 70th Av - \$375,000  
950 72nd Av - \$555,000  
1612 74th Av - \$435,000  
1210 84th Av - \$550,000  
1527 88th 1529 - \$493,000  
1632 88th Av - \$390,000  
2722 99th Av - \$525,000  
2203 9th Av - \$500,000  
600 Aileen St - \$615,000  
670 Appar St - \$530,000  
1041 Arlington Av - \$610,000  
864 Arlington Av - \$450,000  
2831 Atwell Av - \$437,500  
1443 Auseon Av - \$465,000  
4902 B'way 102 - \$557,500  
3905 Brookdale Av - \$515,000  
220 Caldecott 117 - \$506,000  
1221 Campbell St - \$610,000  
225 Catron Dr - \$438,000  
6960 Chambers Dr - \$599,000  
5732 Colton Bl - \$828,000  
7320 Deerwood Av - \$385,000  
3706 Delmont Av - \$278,000  
2238 East 21st St - \$440,000  
1963 East 38th St - \$735,000  
1152 Elmhurst Av - \$450,000  
5330 Estates Dr - \$1,325,000  
6850 Exeter Dr - \$1,280,000  
406 Fairmount Av - \$644,000  
4005 Fairway Av - \$645,000

410 Fox Hills Ct - \$835,000  
2961 Glascock St - \$676,000  
2963 Glascock St - \$616,000  
2527 Havenscourt - \$575,000  
3306 Herner St - \$678,000  
7700 Holly St - \$432,000  
1791 Indian Wy - \$805,000  
5900 Laird Av - \$825,000  
5928 Laird Av - \$580,000  
1555 Lakeside 24 - \$405,000  
1555 Lakeside 25 - \$410,000  
5125 Leona - \$790,000  
4069 Lincoln Av - \$680,000  
6506 MacArthur Bl - \$450,000  
6630 MacArthur Bl - \$209,500  
2800 Mandela Pky - \$495,000  
4134 Midvale Av - \$810,000  
2936 Morgan Av - \$430,000

9 Moss Ln - \$460,000  
422 North St - \$525,000  
3933 Oakmore Rd - \$827,000  
5829 Ocean View - \$1,000,000  
7875 Plymouth St - \$450,000  
2409 Ransom Av - \$405,000  
2842 Rawson St - \$570,000  
2699 Ritchie St - \$495,000  
7112 Snake Rd - \$900,000  
33 Spy Glass Hill - \$641,000  
10th Street - \$209,000  
8040 Surrey Ln - \$695,000  
3106 Union St - \$620,000  
3912 Vale Av - \$500,000  
4112 Webster St - \$360,000

See SALES, Page 1

## Oakland Acura

'06 MDX  
\$398 PER MONTH + TAX  
Model YD1826JNW ALL IN STOCK \$795 DELIVERS

36-month closed-end lease. \$795 Drive-off Includes 1st payment, DMV fees, \$0 Security Deposit, \$23,398 Residual. Total of payments \$15,563 10,000 mi/yr. 20¢ in excess. Subject to credit approval through A.H.F.C.

'06 TL  
\$398 PER MONTH + TAX  
Model #UA6626JW ALL IN STOCK \$1,895 DELIVERS

48-month closed-end lease. \$1,895 Drive-off Includes 1st payment, DMV fees, \$1,000.00 van restoration. \$16,970 residual total of payments \$20,844. 10¢ in excess. Subject to credit approval through A.H.F.C.

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\$995 DELIVERS ANY NEW 2006 HONDA  
On Approved Credit through A.H.F.C.

2006 ACCORD EX-L V6 COUPE  
ALL IN STOCK  
Automatic or 6-Speed Manual, Leather, Power Windows/Locks, Vehicle Stability Assist w/Traction Control, Side Curtain Air Bags, 6 Disc CD Changer  
Model #CMB866JNW or CMB166JNW  
LEASE FOR ONLY... \$279 PER MONTH OR PURCHASE FOR \$25,208  
36-month closed-end lease. \$279 security deposit required. 15¢ per mile charge over 12,000 mi/yr. On Approved Credit through A.H.F.C.

2006 RIDGELINE AT 4WD  
ALL IN STOCK  
Automatic, ABS, Power Windows/Locks, RMFMR CD, Remote Entry, Vehicle Stability Assist w/Traction Control  
Model #YH1686EW  
LEASE FOR ONLY... \$289 PER MONTH OR PURCHASE FOR \$25,478  
36-month closed-end lease. \$289 security deposit required. 15¢ per mile charge over 12,000 mi/yr. On Approved Credit through A.H.F.C.

2006 ODYSSEY EX  
ALL IN STOCK  
Automatic, Power Windows & Locks, 6 Disc CD, Alloy Wheels  
Model #RL346EW  
LEASE FOR ONLY... \$359 PER MONTH OR PURCHASE FOR \$26,102  
48-month closed-end lease. \$359 security deposit required. 15¢ per mile charge over 12,000 mi/yr. On Approved Credit through A.H.F.C.

SPECIAL PURCHASE  
NEW 2005 PILOT EX-L  
12 IN STOCK!  
Automatic, 4x4, Leather, Heated Seats, Power Windows & Locks, 6 Disc CD Changer, Alloy Wheels  
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## Sales

FROM PAGE D4

## PIEDMONT

190 Estates Dr - \$1,340,000  
230 Highland Av - \$1,425,000  
771 Kingston Av - \$257,500  
54 Ramona Av - \$650,000  
1871 Trestle Glen - \$1,320,000  
9 Wyngaard Av - \$1,825,000

## RICHMOND

635 11th St - \$299,000  
126 18th St - \$400,000  
659 4th St - \$175,000  
1653 5th St - \$351,000  
534 5th St - \$468,000  
666 5th St - \$390,000  
3243 Annapolis - \$545,000  
700 Banks Dr - \$399,000  
2606 Beach Head - \$478,000  
4305 Bell Wy - \$345,000  
221 Bissell Av - \$390,000  
5122 Columbia B - \$545,000  
11 Dipper Ct - \$180,000  
9 Dipper Ct - \$180,000  
17 Duboce Av - \$470,000  
5944 Escalon Cr - \$678,000  
5952 Escalon Cr - \$677,000

5744 Everwood Ct - \$759,000  
5748 Everwood Ct - \$717,500  
1241 Fairway Dr - \$580,000  
3208 Florida Av - \$480,000  
1747 Hellings Av - \$327,000  
761 Lassen St - \$502,500  
5223 MacDonald - \$454,000  
67 Murdock St - \$514,000  
39 Overlook Ln - \$430,000  
991 Parkside Dr - \$520,000  
643 Rock Rose - \$819,000  
105 Sanford Av - \$355,000  
258 Sanford Av - \$560,000  
60 Sanford Av - \$530,000  
49 Seagull Dr - \$760,000  
441 S. 27th St - \$525,000  
350 S. 28th St - \$390,000

## SAN LEANDRO

1228 Alder Creek - \$720,000  
13816 Bancroft Av - \$375,000  
1589 Beechwood Av - \$590,000  
312 Cherrywood Av - \$555,000  
1061 Devonshire Av - \$531,000  
1060 Dillo St - \$522,500  
1250 Drake Av - \$520,000  
2252 Estabrook - \$495,000  
15391 Farnsworth - \$581,000  
1656 Halsey Av - \$545,000  
1599 Hays St 308 - \$342,500  
14557 Kings Ct - \$410,000

16600 Liberty St - \$535,000  
1639 Oriole Av - \$685,000  
1350 Pacific Av - \$500,000  
1620 Renaissance - \$700,000  
2320 Spinnaker Ct - \$750,000  
182 Stoakes Av - \$730,000  
1137 Warden Av - \$503,000  
258 Warwick Av - \$522,500  
15206 Wiley St - \$575,000

## SAN LORENZO

952 Elgin St - \$515,000  
605 Empire St - \$549,000  
1720 Via Amigos - \$595,500  
1157 V. Los Trancos - \$550,000  
15912 Via Pinale - \$513,000  
2054 Via Rancho - \$565,000

## By the numbers

## ALAMEDA

TOTAL SALES: 17  
LOWEST PRICE: \$325,000  
HIGHEST PRICE: \$975,000  
MEDIAN PRICE: \$823,500  
AVERAGE PRICE: \$734,618

## ALBANY

TOTAL SALES: 7  
LOWEST PRICE: \$429,000

HIGHEST PRICE: \$1,122,500  
MEDIAN PRICE: \$570,000  
AVERAGE PRICE: \$652,357

## BERKELEY

TOTAL SALES: 12  
LOWEST PRICE: \$360,000  
HIGHEST PRICE: \$814,000  
MEDIAN PRICE: \$540,000  
AVERAGE PRICE: \$555,167

## EL CERRITO

TOTAL SALES: 9  
LOWEST PRICE: \$334,000  
HIGHEST PRICE: \$1,100,500  
MEDIAN PRICE: \$620,000  
AVERAGE PRICE: \$660,500

## EL SOBRANTE

TOTAL SALES: 3  
LOWEST PRICE: \$525,000  
HIGHEST PRICE: \$710,000  
MEDIAN PRICE: \$580,000  
AVERAGE PRICE: \$605,000

## EMERYVILLE

TOTAL SALES: 7  
LOWEST PRICE: \$570,000  
HIGHEST PRICE: \$724,000

MEDIAN PRICE: \$658,000  
AVERAGE PRICE: \$655,143

## KENSINGTON

TOTAL SALES: 2  
LOWEST PRICE: \$685,000  
HIGHEST PRICE: \$1,030,000  
AVERAGE PRICE: \$857,500

## OAKLAND

TOTAL SALES: 89  
LOWEST PRICE: \$209,000  
HIGHEST PRICE: \$1,325,000  
MEDIAN PRICE: \$500,000  
AVERAGE PRICE: \$548,185

## PIEDMONT

TOTAL SALES: 6  
LOWEST PRICE: \$257,500  
HIGHEST PRICE: \$1,825,000  
MEDIAN PRICE: \$1,340,000  
AVERAGE PRICE: \$1,136,250

## RICHMOND

TOTAL SALES: 34  
LOWEST PRICE: \$175,000  
HIGHEST PRICE: \$819,000  
MEDIAN PRICE: \$478,000  
AVERAGE PRICE: \$476,265

## SAN LEANDRO

TOTAL SALES: 21  
LOWEST PRICE: \$342,500  
HIGHEST PRICE: \$750,000  
MEDIAN PRICE: \$535,000  
AVERAGE PRICE: \$556,000

## SAN LORENZO

TOTAL SALES: 6  
LOWEST PRICE: \$513,000  
HIGHEST PRICE: \$595,000  
MEDIAN PRICE: \$550,000  
AVERAGE PRICE: \$547,000

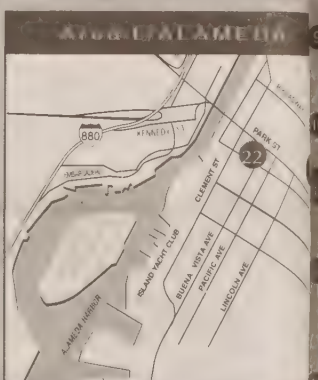
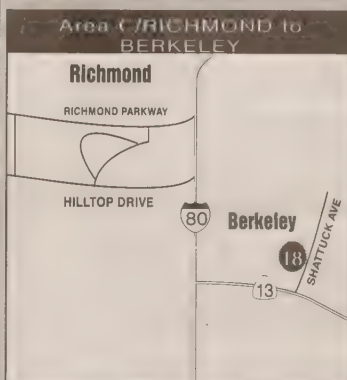
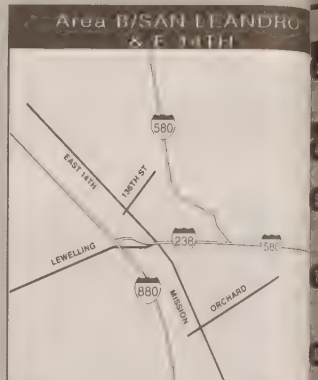
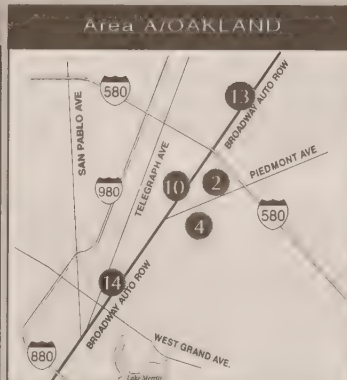
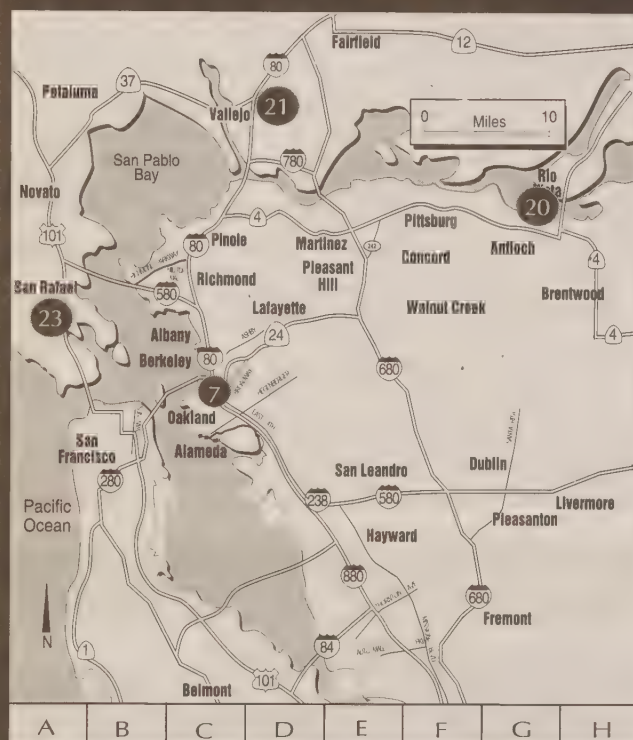
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**HUMMER**  
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7. Infiniti of Oakland  
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**NISSAN**  
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2 Shoreline Parkway, San Rafael, CA 94901  
**(800) 731-8275**  
[www.parkroyale.net](http://www.parkroyale.net)

**SATURN**  
14. Saturn of Oakland Area A  
2401 Broadway, Oakland  
**(510) 839-6400**

**SCION**  
18. Scion of Berkeley  
2400 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley  
**(888) 251-3634**

**TOYOTA**  
13. Downtown Toyota Area A  
4145 Broadway, Oakland  
**(510) 547-4635**

18. Toyota of Berkeley Area C  
2400 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley  
**(888) 251-3634**  
[www.toyotaofberkeley.com](http://www.toyotaofberkeley.com)

20. Antioch Toyota G-3  
1810 "A" Somersville Rd.  
**(925) 778-7200**

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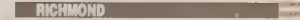
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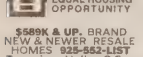
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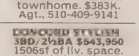
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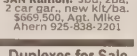
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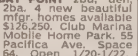
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Homes, office space, income property and more

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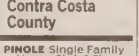
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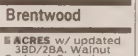
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Alameda Apartments	Alameda	(888) 424-0133	X www.apartments.com/shoreline	895 - 1495			X
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Antioch	Antioch	(866) 389-8879	X www.apartments.com/dhakeshore	950 - 1390			X
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Antioch	Castro Valley	(866) 265-1117	X www.apartments.com/edenterrace	1095 - 1150			X
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Antioch	Concord	(866) 870-4588	X www.apartments.com/greenterrace	1295 - 1295			X
Antioch	Concord	(800) 775-3134	X www.apartments.com/lagunapalms	795 - 1050	X		X
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Antioch	Fremont	(866) 309-4111	X www.apartments.com/robertslane	1195 - 1495	X		X
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Stoneridge	Pleasanton	(888) 225-1053	X	www.apartments.com/stoneridge	999 - 1650	X	X
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College Oak Apartments	Sacramento	(800) 486-5017	X	www.apartments.com/college-oaks	650 - 775		X
Emerald Place	Sacramento	(800) 387-0089	X	www.apartments.com/emerald-place	695 - 1150	X	
Gold Ridge Apartment Homes	Sacramento	(866) 324-9418	X	www.apartments.com/goldridgeca	765 - 895	X	X
Oak Pointe	Sacramento	(866) 875-1768	X	www.apartments.com/oak-pointe	720 - 850		X
Park Terrace Apartments	Sacramento	(866) 227-7296	X	www.apartments.com/park-terrace	695 - 875		X
Rosemont Terrace Apartments	Sacramento	(866) 711-6048		www.apartments.com/rosemontterrace	625 - 740		X
Silver Creek Apartments	Sacramento	(866) 343-1834	X	www.apartments.com/silver-creek	780 - 920		X
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Almaden Terrace Apartments	San Jose	(866) 244-3466	X	www.apartments.com/almadenterrace	1099 - 1450	X	X
The Foothills Apartments	San Jose	(888) 545-7025	X	www.apartments.com/foothillsanjose	1195 - 1395	X	X
Belbrook/ Hildaway	San Leandro	(866) 349-1597	X	www.apartments.com/belbrookhildaway	695 - 1400	X	X
BelMark Apartments	San Leandro	(866) 314-7622	X	www.apartments.com/bel-mark	875 - 1120		X
Chateau Manor Apartments	San Leandro	(888) 807-9980	X	www.apartments.com/chateauanor	1050 - 1350	X	X
The Hamlet	San Leandro	(866) 356-7241	X	www.apartments.com/thehamlet	927 - 1187	X	X
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Parkside Commons	San Leandro	(866) 801-0807	X	www.apartments.com/parksidecommons	900 - 1250	X	X
Sequoia Grove	San Leandro	(866) 301-6888	X	www.apartments.com/sequoiagroves	825 - 895		X
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Villa Alvarado Apartments	San Pablo	(866) 212-7878	X	www.apartments.com/villaalvarado	785 - 1200		X
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Promontory View	San Ramon	(866) 866-9892	X	www.apartments.com/promontoryview	1080 - 1840		X
The Seasons	San Ramon	(866) 355-6168	X	www.apartments.com/the-seasons	980 - 1340	X	X
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Elliot Pointe	Seattle	(866) 723-3305		www.apartments.com/elliottpointe	850 - 1500	X	X
Arch View Apartments	Studio City	(888) 211-9957	X	www.apartments.com/archview	1000 - 2000	X	
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Sycamore Villages	Tracy	(866) 247-3048	X	www.apartments.com/dhycamortvillage	910 - 1380	X	X
Avalon at Union Square	Union City	(866) 287-3124	X	www.apartments.com/avalonunionsquare	1070 - 1365		X
Mission Sierra Apartment Homes	Union City	(866) 356-7219	X	www.apartments.com/mision-sierra	967 - 1337	X	X
Alamo Palms Apartments	Vacaville	(888) 440-8682		www.apartments.com/alamopalms	895 - 895		X
Hidden Creeks	Vacaville	(866) 430-8747	X	www.apartments.com/hidden-creek	895 - 1210	X	X
Round Oak Village Apartments	Vacaville	(866) 343-9981	X	www.apartments.com/roundoakvillage	785 - 995	X	X
Sommerset Apartments	Vacaville	(800) 296-9619	X	www.apartments.com/sommerset	880 - 1050		X
Southwood Place Apartments	Vacaville	(866) 695-6452	X	www.apartments.com/southwoodplace	805 - 1020		X
Bay Village Apartments	Vallejo	(888) 270-3487	X	www.apartments.com/bayvillage	895 - 1250		X
Fountain Plaza Hills	Vallejo	(866) 275-9991	X	www.apartments.com/fountainplazaapartms	790 - 1165	X	X
Franciscan Apartment Homes	Vallejo	(866) 222-9338		www.apartments.com/franciscanapts	685 - 985	X	
Holiday Gardens Apartments	Vallejo	(800) 509-2303	X	www.apartments.com/holidaygardens	685 - 945		X
Spyglass at Glen Cove	Vallejo	(866) 212-4197		www.apartments.com/spyglasscondos	1050 - 1450	X	X
Sundance Apartments At Valley Ranch	Vallejo	(888) 493-2600	X	www.apartments.com/sundancevallejo ranch	850 - 1150	X	X
The Arbors Apartments	Walnut Creek	(866) 697-0981	X	www.apartments.com/thearborsca	900 - 1250	X	X
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Creekside Glen Apartments	Walnut Creek	(888) 291-3921	X	www.apartments.com/creeksideglen	975 - 1275	X	X
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Four Seasons	Walnut Creek	(866) 349-1592	X	www.apartments.com/dhfourseasons	915 - 1505	X	X
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Kingston Place	Walnut Creek	(866) 468-9561	X	www.apartments.com/kingstonplace	950 - 1025	X	X
Newell Vista Apartments	Walnut Creek	(866) 231-8643		www.apartments.com/newellvista	875 - 1650		X
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**NOTICE:** Businesses and individuals offering construction related services with a cost of \$500 or more are required to possess a California State Contractor's License. For further information contact the California State Contractor's Licensing Board at 1-800-321-2752.

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 ADVERTISING SALES CONSULTANT, REAL ESTATE ONLINE. Contra Costa News-Papers is seeking an experienced Advertising Sales Consultant to join our sales team. This position will be responsible for generating new business in the Real Estate category. Must have 3+ years of experience in sales. Call 925-366-3725.

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**TEACHERS**  
 & Director for sites in Richmond area. ECE & exp. pref. 510-412-5647, fax 510-412-5647, or email resume to: ariz@ymcayebay.org. Web id CC0118164890

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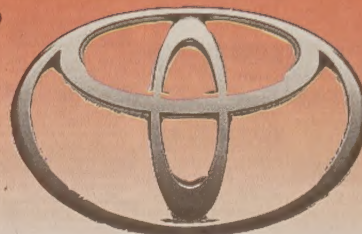
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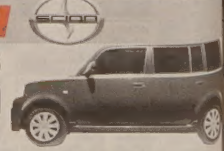
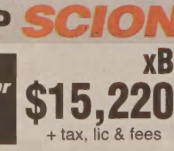
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